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Appearance of the Minister of Public Safety Before the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs (PROC)

Expanding the Federal Jurisdiction for the Operational Security of
the Parliamentary Precinct

Tuesday, May 17, 2022

Canada 

**Appearance of the Minister Before the
Standing Committee on Procedural and House Affairs (PROC)**

Expanding the Federal Jurisdiction for the Operational Security of the Parliamentary Precinct

May 17, 2022

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NOTICE OF MEETING

Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs (PROC)

44th Parliament, 1st Session

Meeting 22

🕒 Tuesday, May 17, 2022, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

📍 Room 035-B, West Block

📺 Televised

Expanding the Federal Jurisdiction for the Operational Security of the Parliamentary Precinct to Include Sections of Wellington St and Sparks St

11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Witnesses

Ottawa Police Service

- Steve Bell, Interim Chief

Royal Canadian Mounted Police

- Michael Duheme, Deputy Commissioner

Service de police de la Ville de Gatineau

- Luc Beaudoin, Director

12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Appearing

- Hon. Marco Mendicino, P.C., M.P., Minister of Public Safety
- Hon. Filomena Tassi, P.C., M.P., Minister of Public Services and Procurement

Witnesses

Department of Public Works and Government Services

- Paul Thompson, Deputy Minister, Public Services and Procurement Canada
- Rob Wright, Assistant Deputy Minister, Science and Parliamentary Infrastructure Branch

Royal Canadian Mounted Police

- Michael Duheme, Deputy Commissioner

Appearance of the Minister Before the Standing Committee on Procedural and House Affairs (PROC)

Expanding the Federal Jurisdiction for the Operational Security of the Parliamentary
Precinct

May 17, 2022

Overview Note

General

The Standing Committee on Procedural and House Affairs (PROC) has invited you to appear to discuss the “Feasibility of Expanding the Federal Jurisdiction for the Operational Security of the Parliamentary Precinct”.

You will appear on a panel with the Honourable Filomena Tassi, Minister of Public Services and Procurement.

Logistics

Date: Tuesday, May 17, 2022
Time: 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Duration: One hour
Location: 035-B West Block (You will be appearing in person)

Prior to Your Appearance

In the first hour of the meeting (11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.), the following individuals will appear:

- Ottawa Police Service: Steve Bell, Interim Chief
- Service de police de la Ville de Gatineau : Luc Beaudoin, Director
- Royal Canadian Mounted Police: Michael Duheme, Deputy Commissioner

Support for Your Appearance

Deputy Commissioner Michael Duheme, who will appear on the panel for the first hour, will remain for the second hour (12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.) to support you during your appearance.

Opening Remarks

At the beginning of the meeting, the Chair will invite you and Minister Tassi to deliver opening remarks. Your opening remarks will last approximately five minutes. Once opening remarks are concluded, the floor will be open to committee members to ask questions.

Rounds of Questions

Questions from committee members will proceed as follows:

Round One

Six minutes for the first questioner of each party as follows: Conservative Party

- Liberal Party
- Bloc Québécois
- New Democratic Party

Second and Subsequent Rounds

- Conservative Party, five minutes
- Liberal Party, five minutes
- Bloc Québécois, two and a half minutes
- New Democratic Party, two and a half minutes
- Conservative Party, five minutes
- Liberal Party, five minutes

Other Information

PROC began this study on April 28, 2022, which was the first and only meeting on this subject thus far. The following individuals appeared in the second hour of that meeting:

House of Commons:

- Michel Patrice, Deputy Clerk, Administration
- Philippe Dufresne, Law Clerk and Parliamentary Counsel

Parliamentary Protective Service:

- Larry Brookson, Acting Director
- Sonia Vani, Chief of Staff, Director's Office of the Parliamentary Protective Service

The transcript of this meeting is included in this binder.

Speaking Notes
for
The Honourable Marco Mendicino
Minister of Public Safety

**Parliamentary Appearance – Standing Committee
on Procedure and House Affairs (PROC)**

**Expanding the Parliamentary Precinct to Include
Sections of Wellington St. and Sparks St.**

May 17, 2022

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Word Count: 612 (5.5 mins)

Madam Chair and Vice Chairs, Honourable Committee Members:

Good morning, and thank you for inviting me today.

I'm joined by Deputy Commissioner Michael Duheme from the RCMP, who was with you earlier today on the previous panel.

The Government supports the Committee's work to study the operational security of the Parliamentary Precinct, including sections of Wellington and Sparks Street.

And I look forward to your findings and recommendations.

In my brief time this morning, I'll speak to the Parliamentary Protective Service, or PPS, and to the Freedom Convoy we witnessed in January and February.

Colleagues, as you know, the PPS is mandated to provide integrated physical security throughout the parliamentary precinct, and the grounds of Parliament Hill.

It was created following the security challenges that followed the terrorist incident in October, 2014.

Shortly after its creation, my office signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) with co-signatories, the Commissioner of the RCMP, the Speaker of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Commons.

The goal of that MOU was to ensure a clear distinction of authorities and responsibilities.

Today, the PPS is comprised of personnel from the former Senate Protective Service, the former House of Commons Security Services, and, as legislated, the Director is a member of the RCMP.

The PPS is a separate entity from other law enforcement partners, and it takes direction from the House of Commons and the Senate.

Which brings me to our most recent security challenge.

Colleagues, in January and February this year in Ottawa, and at various locations across the country, we witnessed blockades that illegally disrupted the lives of Canadians.

They harmed our economy, and endangered public safety.

During the movement's early stages, we saw a gain in momentum for across the country, with a significant increase in numbers in Ottawa, just outside where we're gathered today.

They incited thousands, at our borders, legislatures, monuments, and in front of Parliament Hill.

Wellington Street was overrun by blockaders, entrenching themselves with structures and propane tanks.

As you will recall, the Rideau Centre was shut down, and small businesses shuttered.

911 in Ottawa was flooded with calls.

All of which lasted nearly a month here in Ottawa.

Before, during, and after the Freedom Convoy in our nation's capital, the Ottawa Police Service (OPS) was the police of jurisdiction.

The RCMP was fully engaged with the OPS, Ontario Provincial Police (OPP), other law enforcement partners, as well as the PPS, through the RCMP's National Capital Region Command Centre.

This allowed for real-time operational coordination between all partners.

The RCMP, OPP, and OPS also established an Integrated Command Centre, to develop and oversee a joint enforcement plan under the leadership of the OPS.

All of these actions brought a safe end to these illegal blockades, restored order, and ensured the safety and security of Canadians.

And during the Freedom Convoy, I am aware that PPS maintained its operational and physical security mandate in protecting parliamentarians, parliamentary staff, employees and visitors to the Precinct and to Parliament Hill.

I want to thank all peace officers, PPS staff, and other partners who joined this operation, who worked with professionalism and dedication to keep our communities safe and restore public trust.

Your study will be important to inform future consideration of how to ensure that Parliament Hill, and those who work in and visit the nation's seat of democracy, remain safe and secure.

I also eagerly await the finding of the Joint Parliamentary Committee on the Declaration of Emergency and the public inquiry into the *Emergencies Act* being led by Justice Paul Rouleau.

With that, Madam Chair, I want to reaffirm that the Government looks forward to the Committee's findings and recommendations.

Thank you for your time and the opportunity to speak about this important topic.

Opening Statement

by

**The Honourable Filomena Tassi,
Minister of Public Services and Procurement**

Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs

**Re: Expanding the Federal Jurisdiction for the
operational security of the Parliamentary Precinct to
include sections of Wellington St. and Sparks St.**

May 17, 2022

(Word count: 800)

Madam Chair I want to thank you for inviting me here to today, and I fully appreciate the importance of this Committee's study on expanding Federal Jurisdiction for the operational security of the Parliamentary Precinct.

Before we begin, I would like to acknowledge that we are meeting on the unceded territory of the Anishinaabe Algonquin People.

As Minister of Public Services and Procurement, I am proud to be leading the restoration work on the Precinct.

Through this enormous undertaking, we are restoring one of the most important heritage sites in Canada. We are creating a modern workplace for parliamentarians while moving us towards carbon neutrality and climate resiliency.

Our goal, working hand-in-hand with Parliament, is to restore, modernize and preserve the heart of Canada's democracy, and to ensure that it can be enjoyed by all Canadians for many years to come.

Madam Chair, the Precinct itself goes beyond Parliament Hill and includes the three city blocks facing the Hill, extending from Elgin Street to Bank Street. It also includes the Senate of Canada Building, with Wellington Street and Sparks Street running through and defining the Precinct.

In addition to Parliament, the Precinct is home to the Office of the Prime Minister and Privy Council and the future Indigenous Peoples Space. The Supreme Court is its next door neighbour.

Suffice to say, this is one of the most significant spaces in our country. It cradles our democratic institutions, and it is where Canadians come to celebrate, mourn, reflect and express their democratic voice.

As you can imagine, the Precinct is a complex environment involving many stakeholders with varying and overlapping areas of accountability.

As custodian for the Parliamentary and Judicial Precincts, Public Services and Procurement Canada is responsible for their operations, and securing the authorities and funding to do so. My department also has an important role to play, not only in the planning and delivery of accommodations, but also in helping to operationalize security requirements, which are determined by partners..

Within my portfolio, the National Capital Commission has jurisdiction over federal land use and design, and they are responsible for the visitor experience along Confederation Boulevard.

Finally, the City of Ottawa holds responsibility for all municipal infrastructure, including city streets.

When it comes to security, Madam Chair, the landscape is no less complex.

The Ottawa Police Services are responsible for providing overall policing and law enforcement for the City—that includes Wellington and Sparks.

The Parliamentary Protective Services are the security lead for the Hill and the buildings occupied by parliamentarians.

Then we have the RCMP, our federal police force, which provides protective detail for the Prime Minister.

My colleague, Minister Mendicino, can tell you more about how some of these entities work and interact.

As you well know, recent illegal protests have illustrated the challenges that come with multiple players and jurisdictional barriers. They laid bare issues of ownership and control, security, and governance which, particularly during the early part of the protests, undermined a coordinated and coherent response.

But these issues are not new, Madam Chair, and the complexities they bring reach far beyond security.

In fact, more than a decade ago, the Auditor General reported that the complex governance and the lack of clarity pertaining to roles and responsibilities for the Parliamentary Precinct posed a significant risk for the implementation of the Long Term Vision and Plan.

The Auditor General is currently undertaking a follow-up audit that is to be tabled in Parliament in 2023.

Although we have achieved much over the past decade, including a strong record of delivering projects, many of the same risks remain.

In fact, I would say that they have increased.

Not only has the global threat and risk level continued to evolve, but the complexion of the Precinct has changed.

Within the next decade approximately 50 percent of all parliamentary offices will be located permanently on the other side of Wellington Street—meaning Wellington will no longer serve as a border for Parliament, but instead run right through its core.

With a new sense of urgency to address security in the Precinct, there is an opportunity to deal with the longstanding issues around governance more broadly.

Madam Chair, my department sees significant benefit in working with Parliament, the City of Ottawa and other key stakeholders to help clarify accountabilities, simplify the operational context and streamline decision making—to create a more safe, secure and accessible parliamentary precinct.

Of course, one of our main objectives is to make the Precinct even more open and accessible to visitors.

So when we look at any issue, including security, we need to make sure that we consider how it affects all facets of our Long Term Vision and Plan—ensuring we have solutions that work for local residents and all Canadians, so that they can continue to take pride in their national capital.

From my perspective, the key to putting a plan together that will result in real change will be collaboration and coordination, or to simplify that into one word: partnership.

Parliament can count on Public Services and Procurement Canada as a partner in this important endeavour.

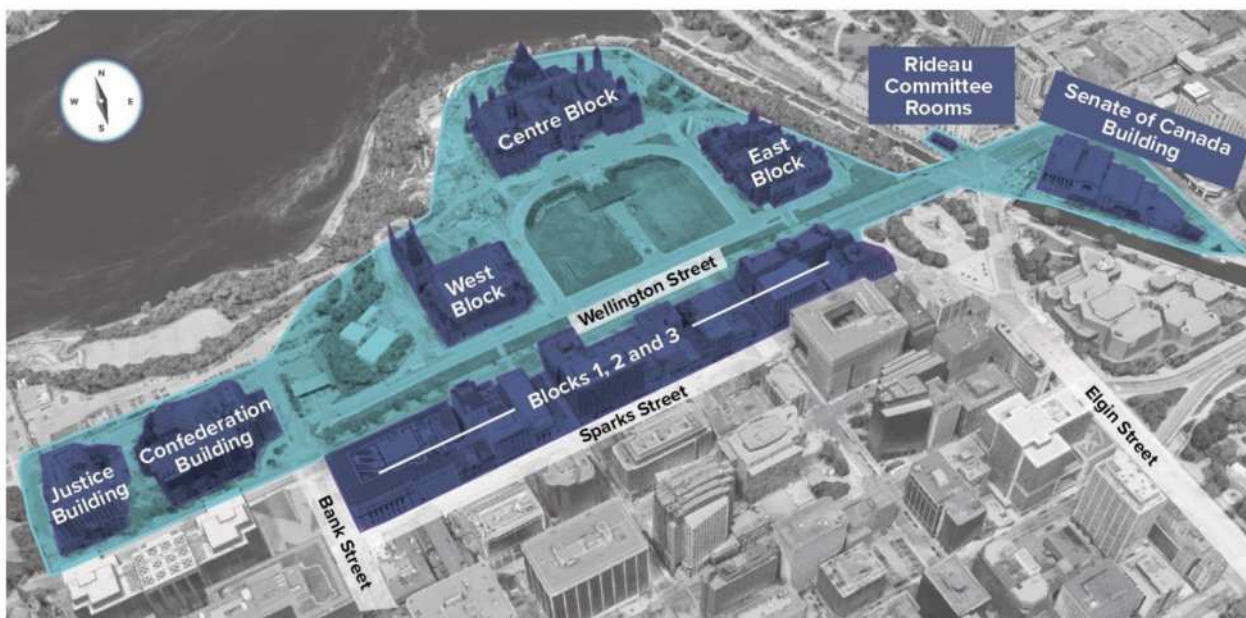
I would be happy to discuss our work on this front. I look forward to your questions, and look forward to working with this committee.

Parliamentary Precinct Security and Police Responsibilities

What is the Parliamentary Precinct?

The precinct comprises 35 Crown-owned buildings, of which 28 are designated federal heritage properties. The focal point of the precinct is the Parliamentary Triad (West Block, Centre Block, and East Block). Other properties within the precinct are to the south, east, and west of the Triad and include several leased holdings and special purpose facilities (including some properties outside of the Parliamentary Precinct Campus) that provide support functions for Parliament.

The boundary of the Parliamentary Precinct is made up of all lands south of the Ottawa River and north of Wellington Street between the Rideau Canal and Kent Street. That area contains the Centre, East and West Blocks as well as the Justice and Confederation buildings. The precinct also includes all lands north of Sparks Street and south of Wellington Street between Elgin Street and Bank Street. These are known as Blocks 1, 2 and 3. Additionally, the precinct includes the Rideau Committee Rooms at 1 Wellington Street and the Senate of Canada Building at 2 Rideau Street.



Source: <https://www.tpsgc-pwgsc.gc.ca/citeparlementaire-parliamentaryprecinct/rehabilitation/vpl-tvp/2019-2020/page-1-eng.html>

Who is responsible for what (i.e. beyond the PPS) and applicable laws

Parliamentary Protective Service (PPS) is responsible for the security of Parliament Hill and the Parliamentary Precinct (which includes specific buildings).

PPS Protection officers do not have peace officer status and cannot charge people with Criminal Code Offences. Instead, the Ottawa Police Service, as the police of local jurisdiction typically are called in to investigate and lay charges if and when necessary.

The RCMP become involved with National Security investigations or when the RCMP's protective policing mandate is invoked (e.g., security involving Internationally Protected Persons, the Prime Minister, the Governor General, or other Ministers based on a threat assessment).

Background – Security and Policing the Parliamentary Precinct

Prior to 2015, the House of Commons and the Senate each had its own separate security entities while the RCMP was responsible for security outside the buildings on Parliament Hill. Having three separate organizations posed coordination and information sharing challenges.

In 2015, after the death of Corporal Nathan Cirillo, amendments to the *Parliament of Canada Act* created a new entity, the Parliamentary Protective Service (PPS), which was responsible for the physical security of the Parliamentary Precinct and the grounds of Parliament.

In support of these changes, the Minister of Public Safety, the RCMP Commissioner, and both Speakers of the Senate and House of Commons entered into a Memorandum of Understanding to ensure clarity of authorities governing the PPS.

The PPS, currently has the RCMP, an agent of the Crown, leading its operational mandate, which challenges the constitutional separation of the executive and legislative branches of government (e.g., the constitutional separation of powers is less distinct) and the inviolability of parliamentary privilege, which needs to be preserved.

In response to these challenges a transition strategy was initiated to augment PPS' operational capabilities and also reduce RCMP resources within the PPS. This transition strategy was completed in October 2021, and all RCMP frontline resources have been completely demobilized. As legislated, the Director of PPS is now the only RCMP member within PPS out of 764 PPS employees.

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QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS THE MINISTER OF PUBLIC SAFETY

PARLIAMENTARY PROTECTIVE SERVICE AND THE RCMP

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS:

What is the Minister of Public Safety's role/authority under the PPS?

- The Minister of Public Safety is a signatory to the 4-party MOU signed June 2015, including the RCMP Commissioner, the Speaker for the House of Commons, and the Speaker for the Senate. This MOU was created to set out the principals for the creation of a Parliamentary Protective Service, and to provide clarity on the roles, responsibilities, and reporting lines therein.

What is the RCMP's role/authority under the PPS?

- While an RCMP member is the operational lead of the PPS, the PPS is a separate entity from other law enforcement partners.
- As legislated, the Director of PPS is now the only RCMP member within PPS out of 764 PPS employees.
- The Director of the PPS reports to and takes all direction from the Speakers of the House of Commons and Senate.
- The RCMP liaises with PPS in the same manner as other law enforcement agencies.

How is OPS, PPS, and RCMP jurisdictional authority different in the NCR?

- The Ottawa police remain the police of jurisdiction within the NCR as it pertains to policing any municipal laws.
- The RCMP has both a protective policing and federal investigative mandate within the NCR to safeguard principal government officials and to investigate Federal Policing threats related to national security; transnational and serious organized crime; and, cybercrime.

- PPS is responsible for the security of the grounds of Parliament Hill and the precinct designated by the Speaker of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Commons.
- The Ottawa Police Service would likely remain the police of jurisdiction regardless of whether the definition of Parliament Hill or Parliamentary Precinct is expanded to include sections of Wellington Street and Sparks Street. This is because PPS members are not peace officers with powers to investigate crime or enforce the Criminal Code and the RCMP does not provide municipal policing services unless under contract.

What was the PPS's role/involvement during the Freedom Convoy?

- During the Freedom Convoy in the NCR, the PPS had in place its own critical incident command centre that was in communication with the National Capital Region Command Centre (NCRCC) and the Integrated Command Centre (ICC). The PPS also held a position alongside other essential services at the NCRCC to ensure open communications with OPS, both Speakers, and the Sergeant at Arms as well as for timely decision making.
- PPS maintained its operational and physical security mandate in protecting parliamentarians, parliamentary staff, employees and visitors to the Precinct and to Parliament Hill.

If pressed on RCMP involvement in the closing of Parliament Hill during the Freedom Convoy

- PPS is responsible for Parliament Hill and the precinct designated by the Speaker of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Commons.
- While the RCMP is the operational lead of the PPS, the PPS is a separate entity from other law enforcement partners.
- Any questions related to operational security or the closure of Parliament Hill should be directed to PPS.

If pressed on any security incidents at Parliament Hill or any of the designated areas under the PPS's mandate during the Freedom Convoy

- PPS is responsible for Parliament Hill and the precinct designated by the Speaker of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Commons.

- Any questions related to the operational security of Parliament Hill should be directed to PPS.

Security measures for parliamentarians

If asked regarding the recent incident in Peterborough experienced by the Honourable Jagmeet Singh:

- Like others, I was horrified by what my colleague the Honourable Jagmeet Singh was subjected to in Peterborough last week. It was unacceptable. There is no place for that vitrol and hatred in politics or in our communities.
- I can assure the committee that I take the issue of parliamentary safety very seriously and am committed to working with all partners to bolster security for Ministers and Parliamentarians as directed in my Mandate Letter.

What is the RCMP's protective policing mandate?

- Under the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Regulations, 2014, it is the duty of RCMP members who are peace officers to protect, whether or not there is an imminent threat to their security, the Governor General and the Prime Minister of Canada, and their respective families.
- Members are also required by regulation to guard and protect any property under Her Majesty's control or custody that the Minister designates. Currently, Rideau Hall, which includes Rideau Cottage, the Prime Ministers summer retreat at Harrington Lake, and 24 Sussex Drive have been designated by the Minister of Public Safety for RCMP protection.
- The scope and scale of the protective measures are determined by the RCMP in accordance with its assessment of the threat or risk to the security of the individual, and in line with the RCMP's operational independence and discretion

If pressed on current threats made against public officials:

- The security environment in which public figures operates continues to evolve both within Canada and abroad.
- The increasing prevalence of Ideologically Motivated Violent Extremism is polarized along political and issue-based lines, and is exacerbated by disinformation via social media.
- Adding to the complexity of this environment is the ease by which the public can interact with public officials, through social media and other means.

- This dynamic environment continues to see an increase in harmful statements where no face-to-face threat is made, yet the rhetoric is harassing or potentially harmful in nature.
- Statements made against officials are often violent, racist, and/or misogynistic constituting a potential threat to the safety and well being of public figures, their families, and their staff.

If pressed on either threats to elected officials or additional RCMP security protective services for certain elected officials:

- Ministers and elected leaders of Opposition Parties have increasingly been subject to harassment, threats, or other forms of intimidation.
- While attacks against political figures in Canada are rare, the threats of a violent attack against a Cabinet Minister or Opposition Leader must never be discounted.
- Pursuant to section 14 of the RCMP Regulations, the RCMP is mandated to provide protective services, including close physical protection for Ministers and other Parliamentarians, in Canada and abroad, whether or not there is an imminent threat to their security.
- The scope and scale of the protective measures are determined by the RCMP in accordance with its assessment of the threat or risk to the security of the individual, not their residences or offices.

If pressed on additional security for Members of Parliament

- The security of Members of Parliament while within the precinct or Parliament Hill, is primarily the responsibility of the Parliamentary Protective Service along with the Sergeant at Arms and the Corporate Security Office of the House of Commons.
- These offices serve a variety of security functions, including, incident management, risk assessments, analysis and threat mitigation, and security awareness.
- As part of its security assessment, the Corporate Security Office is also responsible for the security of constituency offices and Parliament Hill offices for Ministers, Parliamentary Secretaries, and Members of Parliament.

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BACKGROUND NOTE FOR THE MINISTER OF PUBLIC SAFETY

SECURITY ENVIRONMENT AND MAJOR INCIDENTS

SECURITY ENVIRONMENT

The Parliamentary Precinct is at the centre of our democracy. The Parliament Hill grounds are the setting for national celebrations, demonstrations and public ceremonies. According to Public Services and Procurement Canada, more than 1.5 million visitors enjoy the grounds every year. As a symbol of Canadian democracy, Parliament Hill and the broader Precinct requires security and protective measures to respond to potential threats and ensure that the buildings and grounds continue to be a safe, welcoming and meaningful place for Canadians and visitors.

At a high level, potential threats could include vehicle borne improvised explosive devices, man portable improvised explosive devices, active shooter, public disorder, and other criminal activity. When considering security and protective measures, key tenets of any security system are deterrence, detection and reaction, which includes the ability of security forces to delay, deny and respond to attacks.

The Integrated Terrorism Assessment Centre is responsible for assessing terrorism threats to Canada and Canadian interests worldwide, while also establishing the national threat level. This level is currently assessed as medium, meaning that extremist groups and individuals located in Canada and abroad, have both the intent and capability to carry out an act of terrorism in Canada.

The principal terrorist threat to Canada and Canadian interests continues to be that posed by individuals or groups who are inspired by violent ideologies and terrorist groups, such as Daesh or Al-Qaida. At the same time, Canada also continues to face threats from individuals inspired to commit violence based on other forms of extremism. The threat from Ideologically Motivated Violent Extremism (IMVE) is constantly evolving, fuelled by extreme views around race, gender, power and authority. IMVE is a threat that thrives on division and exists in the online space, but the hateful online rhetoric associated with these views has the potential to inspire individuals to commit acts of violence.

MAJOR INCIDENTS IN THE PARLIAMENTARY PRECINCT

In the last decade, the RCMP was engaged in two major incidents in the NCR. First, on October 22, 2014, Michael Zehaf-Bibeau evaded security and entered the Hall of Honour with a rifle and a knife after fatally shooting Corporal Nathan Cirillo at the National War Memorial. Zehaf-Bibeau was a Canadian lone-wolf with a criminal past. At the time of the shooting, he was in Ottawa waiting for the processing of his Canadian passport application. His intention was to leave Canada to travel to the Middle East. Zehaf-Bibeau made a video prior to the attack whereby he expressed his desire to “kill some soldiers” in respect of his religious beliefs. The RCMP classified this national security incident as a terrorist attack under the *Criminal Code of Canada*.

Next, the recent Freedom Convoy in late January 2022 – February 2022, resulted in the proclamation of a public order emergency under the *Emergencies Act* on February 14, 2022. In

turn, Parliamentary Precinct Security service closed Parliament Hill on February 18, 2022.

Although most people participating in the Ottawa protest were motivated by a desire to end COVID-related mandates, the RCMP assessed that some ideologically motivated extremists were likely present and attempting to leverage the protest and its high profile for their own purpose. Some of these individuals posed possible threats to national security, and while no formal organized violent plot was identified during the protest in Ottawa, the potential for serious violence by a lone actor or fringe group was never discounted. The RCMP continues to examine and investigate the incidents leading to, during, and post Freedom Convoy.

Emergency Act: Quick Facts

Ottawa:

As of February 21, 2022, the Ottawa Police Service (OPS) reported **close to 200 arrests, 110 people charged and 115 vehicles towed**. (Source: [General News - Ottawa Police Service](#))

Windsor:

In terms of the blockade of the Ambassador Bridge, Windsor Police reported **46 arrests and 90 charges laid** as of February 15, 2022. (Source: [February-15-2022-Update-2 \(windsorpolice.ca\)](#))

Coutts:

On February 14, 2022, RCMP in Alberta executed a search warrant on three trailers associated with a criminal organization participating in the Coutts, AB blockade. This resulted in the **arrest and detainment of 11 individuals** and the seizure of the following:

- 13 long guns;
- Handguns;
- Multiple sets of body armour;
- A machete;
- A large quantity of ammunition; and,
- High capacity magazines.

(Source: [Alberta RCMP make arrests at Coutts Border Blockade | Royal Canadian Mounted Police \(rcmp-grc.gc.ca\)](#))

Pacific Highway:

On February 14, 2022, starting at approximately 8:30 pm, police engaged protesters and 12 people were arrested. This brings the **total arrests to 16**, including those taken into custody on February 13. (Source: [Surrey RCMP - Arrests at the Pacific Highway BORDER Crossing \(rcmp-grc.gc.ca\)](#))

Emergency Measures Economic Order:

On February 23, 2022, the declaration of a public order emergency under the *Emergencies Act* was revoked. As of that day, RCMP action culminated in:

- the **freezing of over 250 financial products** by financial institutions, which included bank, corporate accounts, and credit cards;
- the **disclosure of 57 entities** to financial institutions, which included individuals and owners or drivers of vehicles involved in the blockades; and,
- **identifying 170 Bitcoin wallet addresses** that were shared with virtual currency exchangers.

(Source: RCMP)

Blockades at Ports of Entry:

For the period of February 7 to February 19, **four Ports of Entry (Ambassador, Coutts, Emerson and Pacific Highway)** experienced multi-day service suspensions as a result of protest activity. (Source: CBSA)

The Emergencies Act – Background

Illegal Protests 2022

The *Emergencies Act* (the “Act”) was enacted by the federal government in 1988 as a replacement for the *War Measures Act*. Its purpose is to authorize the federal government to take special temporary measures to protect the safety of Canadians during a national emergency. It is to be used to fill any gaps in existing federal and provincial/territorial legal authorities that are needed to respond to the emergency.

Requirements for Invoking the Act

Before measures can be taken under the Act, it must be determined that the unlawful protests constitute a national emergency. The Act defines a national emergency as an urgent, temporary and critical situation that seriously endangers the lives, health or safety of Canadians and exceeds the capacity of a province or territory to deal with it, or that seriously threatens the ability of the Government of Canada to preserve the sovereignty, security and territorial integrity of Canada. The situation must also not be capable of being adequately addressed under any other law of Canada. Once an emergency has been declared, the Act (s.19(1)) allows the federal Cabinet to make orders or regulations in a range of listed areas, as necessary for dealing with the emergency.

Timelines and Process

Consultations with all the provinces and territories were conducted prior to the declaration being made on Monday, February 14, 2022, and remain ongoing.

The declaration came into effect on the day it was made. However, a motion for confirmation of the declaration must be made before both houses of Parliament within seven days of its making. This motion was tabled on February 16 and its debate is taking place beginning on February 17.

In addition, following a declaration, the Governor in Council may, if deemed necessary, make specific orders and regulations to deal with the emergency, which must be tabled in both houses of Parliament within two days. Regulations were made on February 15 and tabled on February 16.

The *Act* also requires that a Parliamentary review committee, consisting of a special joint committee of both the House of Commons and the Senate, be established to review the government’s measures under the *Act* and report back to both Houses. Also, the *Act* requires the government to hold an inquiry within sixty days after the declaration of emergency expired or was revoked, and to table a report to each House of Parliament within three hundred and sixty days.

Emergency Measures Regulations – Law Enforcement

- **Invoking the *Emergencies Act* was a difficult, but necessary decision made in the best interest of Canada and Canadians.**
- **It reflected the severity and length of unlawful blockades – including over three weeks in Ottawa, and six days in Windsor with the blockade of the Ambassador Bridge – and reflected our collective concern about illegal occupations and non-peaceful protests across the country.**
- **I want to thank police officers from all law enforcement agencies who joined the operations and are working diligently to resolve situations across the country and keeping communities safe.**
- **The orders and measures announced as part of the declaration of a public order emergency were intended to be time-limited, targeted and supplemental to other measures available to law enforcement.**
- **The *Emergencies Act* was only meant to be applied as long as it was needed. Once the situation on the ground changed, law enforcement was able to rely on existing tools and authorities to maintain peace and public safety, and the declaration of emergency was revoked on February 23, 2022, nine days after its proclamation on February 14th.**
- **The Emergency Measures Regulations invoked under the *Emergencies Act* were national in scope but applied specifically to addressing non-peaceful protests and illegal blockades. All law enforcement agencies, including the RCMP, were given additional tools to do their job, and address non-peaceful protests and illegal blockades that may breach the peace.**

- These measures did not remove the authorities of police of local jurisdiction.
- As we have seen, these measures allowed law enforcement to effectively address unlawful public assemblies, prevent adults from bringing children to these areas, turn away people who wished to travel to these assemblies, and stop those who would have provided support for lawful assemblies, such as diesel for illegally idling trucks that are creating a blockade.
- There were also new powers to require people to provide essential goods and/or services for the removal, towing and storage of vehicles and equipment that are part of an unlawful blockade, for which they were entitled to compensation at local market rates. I understand that these may have been helpful.
- The Commissioner of the RCMP delegated these powers to key members of her team across the country, as well to the OPP Commissioner.. These powers have been used to secure needed equipment to clear the streets in Ottawa.
- Our goal was to bring a safe end to these illegal blockades and occupations and see order restored as soon as possible to ensure the safety of Canadians and an end to the economic disruptions. I believe we have done so.

IF PRESSED ON ACTIONS TAKEN AS A RESULT OF THE ORDER:

- We all saw the vivid images of police action in Ottawa in late February. The measures provided for under the *Emergencies Act* have helped police to maintain the perimeter, restrict travel and limit access to the downtown core, and ensure that they continue to restrict financial support and other

assistance to protesters. Using all authorities available to law enforcement, as of February 21st there have been close to 200 arrests, 110 individuals charged with various offences laid and a total of 115 vehicles towed.

- We do know that the *Emergencies Act* was used to bring about the peaceful conclusion of the illegal blockades, and to deter unlawful actions and encourage peaceful protests.

IF PRESSED ON WHY OTTAWA WAS NOT DESIGNATED A SECURE ZONE:

- A designation was not required in Ottawa because the assembly was already unlawful. As a result, the police were able to establish a perimeter relying on the Emergencies Measures Regulations and other existing legal authorities to secure and maintain control of the area.

IF PRESSED ON INFRINGING ON PROVINCIAL JURISDICTION:

- While these measure applied nationally, they were not meant to infringe on provincial jurisdiction over administration of justice and policing. Police of local jurisdiction remained in command of police operations and used the measures under the *Emergencies Act* based on their operational requirements.

IF PRESSED ON WHAT ISSUES ARE BEING ADDRESSED BY THE EMERGENCY MEASURES REGULATIONS:

- The measures contained within the Emergency Measures Regulations supplemented existing authorities and provided new tools for law enforcement to address unlawful blockades.

- Police were given the ability to compel individuals and companies to provide the essential goods and services requested for the removal, towing and storage of any vehicles, equipment, structure or other object that is part of a blockade, with reasonable compensation.
- The police were also able to designate secure areas to support their operations, and refuse people travelling to illegal protest with the intention of participating.
- Bringing a minor to participate in such an assembly was a new prohibition, as was entering Canada with the intent to participate in such an assembly.
- Supporting an illegal assembly was also prohibited, and police had the authority to enforce the prohibition by, for example, turning away people who are bringing in food, blankets, shelter materials to an area of an unlawful assembly.

IF PRESSED ON COURT CHALLENGES RELATED TO THE *EMERGENCIES ACT*:

- We are aware of court challenges related to the Emergencies Act. It would be premature to speculate on the outcomes of these judicial processes at this time.
- The measures put in place as a result of the declaration of a public order emergency were temporary, targeted, and proportionate to the threat we faced. The measures were also consistent with the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, and were revoked once they were no longer necessary.

Background:

Peaceful assembly is a right under the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*. However, the protest activities that were seen across Canada related to the Freedom Convoy 2022 exceeded the definition of peaceful assembly, resulting in illegal blockades, disruptions to people's lives and the movement of goods, and the occupation of Ottawa. This created a critical, unique, and urgent but temporary situation that was national in scope, which could not be effectively dealt with under existing laws of Canada. The length of time of these illegal blockades and disruptions – over 21 days for Ottawa, 8 days for the blockade of the Ambassador Bridge, and 17 days for the blockage of the Coutts, Alberta border crossing – created significant adverse effects on the Canadian economy and individual liberties of citizens, at a time when the country is recovering from the impact of the global pandemic. Illegal protests and blockades impacted businesses, manufactures, and critical supply chains have been disrupted, hurting many Canadians, including workers who rely on these jobs.

On February 14, 2022, the Government of Canada announced it was declaring a public order emergency under the *Emergencies Act*. With this declaration, Emergency Measures Regulations (EMRs) and Emergency Economic Measures Order were put in place. These provided law enforcement with additional tools to resolve illegal blockades and the occupation of Ottawa. On February 23, 2022, the declaration of emergency was revoked, and all measures and orders ceased to be in effect, although law enforcement may continue to lay charges for activities that violated the Act during the declaration of emergency.

Existing Tools Available to Address Blockades and Illegal Protests

Prior to invoking the Emergencies Act on February 14, 2022, law enforcement had certain tools available to them in addressing the illegal protests and blockades. These tools included recourse pursuant to the *Criminal Code* as well as provincial and municipal statutes to address the traffic and noise violations. However, despite the existing tools, the situation was rapidly evolving and escalated to the point where the Ottawa police needed the assistance of the province and Canada. The new measures that were introduced have closed the gaps that prevented law enforcement from effectively addressing this public order emergency and provided them the measures needed to resolve it. These new measures build on existing tools, including strengthening the ability to impose fines or imprisonment, and allow the government to secure and protect critical infrastructure, including border crossings and airports. The new measures also provide additional resources to local law enforcement by enabling the RCMP to enforce provincial bylaws where requested.

Despite these existing tools, the situation rapidly evolved and escalated to a point where local law enforcement agencies, including for example the Ottawa Police Service, required additional assistance to address the unique situation of the illegal blockades. The new measures that were introduced through the *Emergencies Act* have provided new tools to help law enforcement effectively address this unprecedented public order emergency. These new measures were additional to existing tools, and were aimed at prohibiting non-peaceful public assembly in order to prevent the interruption of movement of people, goods, or trade. It also aimed at preventing the interference with critical infrastructure, or promoting violence against a person or property. The measures strengthened the ability to impose fines or imprisonment, and to secure and protect critical infrastructure, including border crossings and airports. The new measures also

provided additional resources to local law enforcement by enabling the RCMP to enforce provincial and municipal bylaws where requested.

Emergency Measures Regulations (EMR)

The goal of law enforcement is always to maintain public order and keep citizens safe. The Emergency Measures Regulations, made under subsection 19(1) of the *Emergencies Act*, were in force from February 15, 2022 to February 23, 2022 and responded to the unique challenges associated with the current unlawful blockades, which were unprecedented in their scope and nature. Measures contained within the EMR were temporary and proportionate to the situation, and aimed at ensuring the safety of Canadians during this national emergency, including:

- Prohibiting public assemblies that may reasonably be expected to lead to a breach of the peace;
- Prohibiting the use of property to facilitate or participate in such assemblies;
- Designating and securing protected places;
- Directing persons to render essential goods and services to remove, tow and store vehicles and other items that are part of a blockade, with compensation;
- Prohibiting the use, collection, or provision of property in support of an unlawful assembly – e.g., diesel for illegally idling trucks creating a blockade.
- Authorizing or directing financial institutions to render essential services to relieve impact of blockades, including regulating and prohibiting the use of property to fund or support the blockades, and compelling banks to freeze bank accounts reasonably suspected to have contributed to the public order emergency;
- The imposition of fines, imprisonment, or both, for failure to comply with regulations made under section 19 of the *Emergencies Act* or a lawful order made under them (e.g. direction to provide essential goods and services).

The EMRs created five prohibitions:

- Participating in a public assembly that may reasonably be expected to lead to a breach of the peace, i.e. serious disruption of movement of persons, goods, serious interference with trade, interference with the functioning of critical infrastructure, acts or threats of serious violence against persons or property;
- Causing a minor to participate in or travel near such an assembly (in other words, preventing adults from bringing children to these areas);
- Entering Canada with the intent to participate in or facilitate such an assembly;
- Travelling to or within such an assembly; and
- Using, collecting, providing, making available, or inviting a person to make available – whether directly or indirectly - property to facilitate or participate in such an assembly.

The intent of these measures was to supplement federal, provincial and municipal authorities to address illegal blockades and to restore public order and the rule of law, and ensure that confidence in Canada's institutions continues. These time-limited measures were used only where needed by local law enforcement, and did not derogate provinces jurisdiction over the administration of justice and policing.

Ability to Render Goods or Services

Due to the challenges of law enforcement across jurisdictions to procure towing and wrecking services to remove unlawful blockages, the EMRs provided a new authority for the Commissioner of the RCMP and the Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness or any person acting on their behalf to compel the provision of goods or services needed to remove, tow, and store any vehicle, equipment, structure or other object that is part of a blockade. Those asked to provide services must do so promptly, and will be provided fair compensation.

The Commissioner of the RCMP assigned this ability to appropriate RCMP members across Canada, and had also assigned the ability to the Commissioner of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) at their request. This measure has been used, most notably in Ottawa to help remove illegal blockades in front of the Parliament Buildings and other locations.

Designation of a Protected Place

The EMRs identified certain locations as being "designated as protected and may be secured", including critical infrastructure, Parliament Hill and the parliamentary precinct, official residences, government and defence buildings, and monuments such as the War Memorial. Further, the Minister of Public Safety had the authority to also designate additional places if required. This allows for preventative action to secure these locations to aid in law enforcement operations to address illegal assemblies and blockades. During the period that the *Emergencies Act* was invoked, law enforcement operated with the EMR's as they were written.

Peace Officer Authorities

Peace Officer authorities in enforcing the EMRs included:

- To secure certain designated protected places (e.g., critical infrastructure such as airports, utilities, border crossings, and government buildings); and
- Take "necessary measures" to ensure compliance with the EMRs.

Penalties under the EMRs

Contravention of the EMRs or of a lawful order by a peace officer made thereunder may be prosecuted as a summary conviction or indictable offence.

- On summary conviction, a fine not exceeding \$500 or imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months, or both; or
- On indictment, a fine not exceeding \$5000, or imprisonment for a term not exceeding five years, or both.

The normal provisions of the Criminal Code regarding arrest and bringing of charges apply.

Emergencies Act-related Litigation

There are currently four applications for judicial review of the Government's decision to invoke the *Emergencies Act*. The applications have been filed by the Canadian Civil Liberties Association, Canadian Frontline Nurses, Canadian Constitution Foundation, and Jost et al (a summary of each application is provided in Annex B). On March 13, 2022, Justice Canada was provided with correspondence from the Alberta Attorney General to the Federal Court, advising that the Attorney General of Alberta intends to file motions to intervene in each of the CCLA and CCF applications on the basis that the matters raise questions of general importance. All four applications are being considered in a joint case management process.

Separately, there is one self represented claim against the Prime Minister that has been filed in Ontario Small Claims Court.

Annex A : Overview of Key Blockades and Illegal Protest Sites

Ottawa, Ontario

Current Status: Event concluded. Ongoing vigilance and monitoring.

Duration: 42 days and ongoing

Start Date: January 28, 2022

End Date: To be defined by OPS. Gradual reduction by all police forces.

On February 16, after three weeks of occupation, the Ottawa Police Service (OPS) issued a warning to protesters to either leave or be arrested. On February 17, 2022, the Integrated Command Centre (ICC) comprised of RCMP, Ontario Provincial Police, OPS, and other police services commenced enforcement activities. This led to the arrest of key convoy organizers and supporters, including Chris Barber, Tamara Lich, Pat King, Daniel Bulford and Alex Vriend. On February 20, 2022, during the afternoon, Ottawa Police delivered a Trespass Notice to individuals located at Coventry Road, a staging area with extra supplies for the downtown convoy. As of the end of the day, the staging area has been cleared.

As of February 21, 2022, the Ottawa Police Service (OPS) reported close to 200 arrests and 115 vehicles towed. Under the OPS lead, the ICC established operational control of the NCR and continue operations to return the downtown core to a state of normalcy.

The ICC has stood down, and the police of jurisdiction have returned to their regular duties, including continued vigilance around the downtown core. Some continue to protest downtown, which has not been deemed concerning from a public safety perspective. There was a gradual reduction by all police forces, and intelligence agencies and sectors continue to monitor open sources and threats.

Windsor, Ontario

Current Status: Concluded

Duration: 8 days

Start Date: February 7, 2022

End Date: February 14, 2022

On February 7, 2022, the Ambassador Bridge closed in both directions due to significant protest activity, disrupting all cross-border commercial traffic vital to the North American economy. On February 11, 2022, the Superior Court Chief Justice issued a temporary injunction prohibiting individuals from establishing a blockade or impeding access to the Ambassador Bridge. Windsor Police Service provided notices to demonstrators, confirming that anyone involved must immediately cease unlawful act or otherwise, could be facing charges. On February 12, 2022, law enforcement agencies commenced enforcing the injunction and the Bridge was completely reopened on February 14th. In total, 42 individuals were arrested and 37 vehicles were removed.

Emerson, Manitoba

Current Status: Concluded

Duration: 7 days

Start Date: February 10, 2022

End Date: February 16, 2022

On February 10, 2022, the Emerson port of entry (POE) was completely blocked by protest activity, disrupting cross border traffic between Canada and the US. Free movement of all livestock transport, CBSA employees, emergency services vehicles and residential traffic from the town of Emerson continued. Through ongoing consultation and negotiation, the convoy organizers agreed to a “slow roll” departure mid-day on February 16, 2022. The Emerson POE was re-opened on February 16, 2022.

Coutts, Alberta

Current Status:	Concluded
Duration:	17 days
Start Date:	January 29, 2022
End Date:	February 15, 2022

On January 30, 2022, the Coutts POE was significantly disrupted due to ongoing protest activity. This border crossing is important for ongoing trade between Canada and the US, as it is the largest POE in Alberta and the only one operating 24 hours a day.

On February 14, 2022, the RCMP arrested 11 suspects and seized firearms and ammunition. These suspects have been charged with a variety of Criminal Code offences, including mischief over \$5000 and conspiracy to commit murder. After the arrest of these key suspects, the convoy leaders reached an agreement with the RCMP recognizing that the demonstrators maintained peaceful intent and that no violence would be tolerated. As such, the border resumed operation on February 15, 2022.

Surrey, British Columbia

Current Status:	Concluded
Duration:	8 days
Start Date:	February 12, 2022
End Date:	February 19, 2022

Since February 12, 2022, the Pacific Highway border crossing has had various disruptions resulting in intermittent border closures. For instance, on February 13, 2022, the Pacific Highway redirected traffic to other POEs, while on February 15th, the border restricted access to vehicles and pedestrians. On February 19th, the border was open in the morning and closed in the afternoon due to increased protest activity. As of February 19, 2022 at 2000 hours, the border remains open as the majority of demonstrators and vehicles have departed.

Other events

Many events were planned and have taken place across the country over the last few weeks. Some were cancelled or postponed, and others materialized without violent incidents.

Annex B: Emergencies Act Litigation

Canadian Civil Liberties Association v. AGC : The applicant argues that the vast majority of protests across Canada have been handled by local authorities using existing laws, and that several provinces have stated that resorting to the Emergencies Act is unnecessary. In particular, the applicant argues that the legislative thresholds have not been met and, for that reason, the Emergency Proclamation is unreasonable and ultra vires. The applicant is seeking various orders, including orders to quash the Emergency Proclamation, the Emergency Measures Regulations, and the Emergency Economic Measures Order.

Canadian Frontline Nurses et al. v. AGC: The applicants are alleging that Canada invoked the Emergencies Act to suppress political dissent. In particular, they are arguing that the invocation of the Emergencies Act is improperly motivated by a design to target, threaten and punish individuals who have different views from that of the Prime Minister with respect to Covid-19 mandates and restrictions. The applicants are also arguing that the Public Order Emergency Proclamation is ultra vires and unreasonable and does not meet the threshold provided under the Emergencies Act.

Canadian Constitution Foundation v. AGC: The relief sought by the Applicant includes: (1) an order declaring unlawful and quashing the Public Order Emergency Proclamation; (2) an order declaring unlawful and quashing the Emergency Measures Regulations; (3) an order declaring unlawful and quashing the Emergency Economic Measures Order; for (2) and (3) the Applicant also seeks an order pursuant to s. 52(1) of the Constitution Act declaring these measures to be unconstitutional and of no force or effect; (4) an order pursuant to Rule 105 that this proceeding be joined with CCLA v. AGC, T-316-22; (5) an order directing the Respondent to deliver the Record to the Applicant on an urgent basis pursuant to Rule 317; (6) an order directing the Respondent to deliver to those portions of the Record over which it asserts any privileges under Rule 318, including any s.38 and s.39 CEA privileges, to the Applicant on an urgent, counsel-only basis pursuant to a confidentiality undertaking.

Jost et al. v. AGC et al. : The applicants are all individuals who participated in the Ottawa protests. They seek declarations that the order and regulations are invalid and ultra vires the Emergencies Act, are inconsistent with sections 91, 92, and 96 of the Constitution Act and sections 2(b), 2(c), 6, 7, 8, 9, 12, and 15 of the Charter and therefore of no force and effect. They also allege violation of the Canadian Bill of Rights and international law obligations, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights, and the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties. The applicants seek an expedited hearing and an order quashing the declaration and measures issued pursuant to the Emergencies Act.

Steven Barrow v Justin Trudeau (SB): A self-represented claimant has initiated a matter in an Ontario Small Claims Court. The only remedy sought is to refer the defendants for a “private prosecution” under the Criminal Code for alleged violation of the Crimes Against Humanity and War Crimes Act against a civilian population with different views).

Registration
SOR/2022-21 February 15, 2022

EMERGENCIES ACT

P.C. 2022-107 February 15, 2022

Whereas the Governor in Council has, by a proclamation made pursuant to subsection 17(1) of the *Emergencies Act*^a, declared that a public order emergency exists;

And whereas the Governor in Council believes on reasonable grounds, that the regulation or prohibition of public assemblies in the areas referred to in these Regulations are necessary;

Therefore, Her Excellency the Governor General in Council, on the recommendation of the Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness, pursuant to subsection 19(1) of the *Emergencies Act*^a, makes the annexed *Emergency Measures Regulations*.

emergency measures regulations

interpretation

1 The following definitions apply to these Regulations

Act means the *Emergencies Act* (Loi)

critical infrastructure means the following places, including any land on which they are located:

- (a) airports, aerodromes, heliports, harbours, ports, piers, lighthouses, canals, railway stations, railways, tramway lines, bus stations, bus depots and truck depots;
- (b) infrastructure for the supply of utilities such as water, gas, sanitation and telecommunications;
- (c) international and interprovincial bridges and crossings;
- (d) power generation and transmission facilities;
- (e) hospitals and locations where COVID-19 vaccines are administered;
- (f) trade corridors and international border crossings, including ports of entry, ferry terminals, customs offices, bonded warehouses, and sufferance warehouses. (*infrastructures essentielles*)

^a R.S., c. 22 (4th Suppl.)

Enregistrement
DORS/2022-21 Le 15 février 2022

LOI SUR LES MESURES D'URGENCE

C.P. 2022-107 Le 15 février 2022

Attendu que la gouverneure en conseil a, par proclamation prise en vertu du paragraphe 17(1) de la *Loi sur les mesures d'urgence*^a, déclaré qu'il se produit un état d'urgence;

Attendu que la gouverneure en conseil croit, pour des motifs raisonnables, qu'il est fondé de réglementer ou d'interdire des assemblées publiques dans les endroits visés,

À ces causes, sur recommandation du ministre de la Sécurité publique et de la Protection civile et en vertu du paragraphe 19(1) de la *Loi sur les mesures d'urgence*^a, Son Excellence la Gouverneure générale en conseil prend le *Règlement sur les mesures d'urgences*, ci-après.

règlement sur les mesures d'urgences

définitions

1 Les définitions qui suivent s'appliquent au présent règlement.

agent de la paix Tout officier de police ou agent de police employé à la préservation et au maintien de la paix publique. (*peace officer*)

étranger S'entend au sens du paragraphe 2(1) de la *Loi sur l'immigration et la protection des réfugiés*. (*foreign national*)

infrastructures essentielles Les lieux ci-après, y compris le terrain sur lequel ils sont situés :

- a) les aéroports, aérodromes, héliports, havres, ports, gares maritimes, jetées, phares, canaux, gares ferroviaires et chemins de fer, terminus d'autobus et garages d'autobus ou de camions;
- b) les infrastructures servant à la fourniture de services publics tels que l'eau, le gaz, l'assainissement et les télécommunications;
- c) les ponts et les ouvrages de franchissement internationaux et interprovinciaux;
- d) les installations de production et de transmission d'énergie;

^a L.R., ch. 22 (4e suppl.)

foreign national has the same meaning as in subsection 2(1) of the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act* (*étranger*)

peace officer means a police officer, police constable, constable, or other person employed for the preservation and maintenance of the public peace (*agent de la paix*)

protected person has the same meaning as in subsection 95(2) of the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act* (*personne protégée*)

Prohibition — public assembly

2 (1) A person must not participate in a public assembly that may reasonably be expected to lead to a breach of the peace by:

- (a) the serious disruption of the movement of persons or goods or the serious interference with trade;
- (b) the interference with the functioning of critical infrastructure; or
- (c) the support of the threat or use of acts of serious violence against persons or property.

minor

(2) A person must not cause a person under the age of eighteen years to participate in an assembly referred to in subsection (1).

Prohibition — entry to Canada — foreign national

3 (1) A foreign national must not enter Canada with the intent to participate in or facilitate an assembly referred to in subsection 2(1).

exemption

(2) Subsection (1) does not apply to

- (a) a person registered as an Indian under the *Indian Act*;
- (b) a person who has been recognized as a Convention refugee or a person in similar circumstances to those of a Convention refugee within the meaning of subsection 146(1) of the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Regulations* who is issued a permanent resident visa under subsection 139(1) of those regulations;
- (c) a person who has been issued a temporary resident permit within the meaning of subsection 24(1) of the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act* and who seeks to enter Canada as a protected temporary resident under subsection 151.1(2) of the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Regulations*;

e) les hôpitaux et les endroits où sont administrés les vaccins contre la COVID-19;

f) les axes commerciaux et les postes frontaliers internationaux, y compris les points d'entrée, les bureaux de douanes, les entrepôts de stockage et les entrepôts d'attente. (*critical infrastructure*)

Loi La Loi sur les mesures d'urgence. (Act)

personne protégée S'entend au sens du paragraphe 95(2) de la *Loi sur l'immigration et la protection des réfugiés*. (*protected person*)

interdiction - assemblée publique

2 (1) Il est interdit de participer à une assemblée publique dont il est raisonnable de penser qu'elle aurait pour effet de troubler la paix par l'un des moyens suivants :

- a) en entravant gravement le commerce ou la circulation des personnes et des biens;
- b) en entravant le fonctionnement d'infrastructures essentielles;
- c) en favorisant l'usage de la violence grave ou de menaces de violence contre des personnes ou des biens.

mineur

(2) Il est interdit de faire participer une personne âgée de moins de dix-huit ans à une assemblée visée au paragraphe (1).

interdiction - entrée au Canada - étranger

3 (1) Il est interdit à l'étranger d'entrer au Canada avec l'intention de participer à une assemblée visée au paragraphe 2(1) ou de faciliter une telle assemblée.

exemption

(2) Le paragraphe (1) ne s'applique pas aux personnes suivantes :

- a) une personne inscrite à titre d'Indien sous le régime de la *Loi sur les Indiens*;
- b) la personne reconnue comme réfugié au sens de la Convention, ou la personne dans une situation semblable à celui-ci au sens du paragraphe 146(1) du *Règlement sur l'immigration et la protection des réfugiés*, qui est titulaire d'un visa de résident permanent délivré aux termes du paragraphe 139(1) de ce règlement;
- c) la personne qui est titulaire d'un permis de séjour temporaire au sens du paragraphe 24(1) de la *Loi sur l'immigration et la protection des réfugiés* et qui cherche à entrer au Canada à titre de résident temporaire protégé aux termes du paragraphe 151.1(2) du *Règlement sur l'immigration et la protection des réfugiés*;

(d) a person who seeks to enter Canada for the purpose of making a claim for refugee protection;

(e) a protected person;

(f) a person or any person in a class of persons whose presence in Canada, as determined by the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration or the Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness, is in the national interest.

Travel

4 (1) A person must not travel to or within an area where an assembly referred to in subsection 2(1) is taking place.

minor — travel near public assembly

(2) A person must not cause a person under the age of eighteen years to travel to or within 500 metres of an area where an assembly referred to in subsection 2(1) is taking place.

exemptions

(3) A person is not in contravention of subsections (1) and (2) if they are

(a) a person who, within of the assembly area, resides, works or is moving through that area for reasons other than to participate in or facilitate the assembly;

(b) a person who, within the assembly area, is acting with the permission of a peace officer or the Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness;

(c) a peace officer; or

(d) an employee or agent of the government of Canada or a province who is acting in the execution of their duties.

use of property — prohibited assembly

5 A person must not, directly or indirectly, use, collect, provide make available or invite a person to provide property to facilitate or participate in any assembly referred to in subsection 2(1) or for the purpose of benefiting any person who is facilitating or participating in such an activity.

designation of protected places

6 The following places are designated as protected and may be secured:

(a) critical infrastructures;

(b) *Parliament Hill* and the *parliamentary precinct* as they are defined in section 79.51 of the *Parliament of Canada Act*;

(d) la personne qui cherche à entrer au Canada afin de faire une demande d'asile;

(e) la personne protégée;

(f) sa présence au Canada est, individuellement ou au titre de son appartenance à une catégorie de personnes, selon ce que conclut le ministre de la Citoyenneté et de l'Immigration ou le ministre de la Sécurité publique et de la Protection civile, dans l'intérêt national.

déplacements

4 (1) Il est interdit de se déplacer à destination ou à l'intérieur d'une zone où se tient une assemblée visée au paragraphe 2(1).

déplacements à proximité d'une assemblée publique - mineur

(2) Il est interdit de faire déplacer une personne âgée de moins de dix-huit ans, à destination ou à moins de 500 mètres de la zone où se tient une assemblée visée au paragraphe 2(1).

exemptions

(3) Ne contrevient pas aux paragraphes (1) et (2) :

(a) la personne qui réside, travaille ou circule dans la zone de l'assemblée, pour des motifs autres que de prendre part à l'assemblée ou la faciliter;

(b) la personne qui, relativement à la zone d'assemblée, agit avec la permission d'un agent de la paix ou du ministre de la Sécurité publique et de la Protection civile;

(c) l'agent de la paix;

(d) l'employé ou le mandataire du gouvernement du Canada ou d'une province qui agit dans l'exercice de ses fonctions.

utilisation de biens - assemblée interdite

5 Il est interdit, directement ou non, d'utiliser, de réunir, de rendre disponibles ou de fournir des biens — ou d'inviter une autre personne à le faire — pour participer à toute assemblée visée au paragraphe 2(1) ou faciliter une telle assemblée ou pour en faire bénéficier une personne qui participe à une telle assemblée ou la facilite.

désignation de lieux protégés

6 Les lieux suivants sont protégés et peuvent être aménagés :

(a) les infrastructures essentielles;

(b) la *cité parlementaire* et la *Colline parlementaire* au sens de l'article 79.51 de la *Loi sur le Parlement du Canada*;

(c) official residences;

(d) government buildings and defence buildings

(e) any property that is a building, structure or part thereof that primarily serves as a monument to honour persons who were killed or died as a consequence of a war, including a war memorial or cenotaph, or an object associated with honouring or remembering those persons that is located in or on the grounds of such a building or structure, or a cemetery;

(f) any other place as designated by the Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness.

direction to render essential goods and services

7 (1) Any person must make available and render the essential goods and services requested by the Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness, the Commissioner of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police or a person acting on their behalf for the removal, towing and storage of any vehicle, equipment, structure or other object that is part of a blockade.

method of request

(2) Any request made under subsection (1) may be made in writing or given verbally by a person acting on their behalf.

verbal request

(3) Any verbal request must be confirmed in writing as soon as possible.

Period of request

8 A person who, in accordance with these Regulations, is subject to a request under section 7 to render essential goods and services must comply immediately with that request until the earlier of any of the following:

(a) the day referred to in the request;

(b) the day on which the declaration of the public order emergency expires or is revoked; or

(c) the day on which these Regulations are repealed.

Compensation for essential goods and services

9 (1) Her Majesty in right of Canada is to provide reasonable compensation to a person for any goods or services that they have rendered at their request under section 7, which amount must be equal to the current market price for those goods or services of that same type, in the area in which the goods or services are rendered.

(c) les résidences officielles;

(d) les immeubles gouvernementaux et les immeubles de la défense;

(e) tout ou partie d'un bâtiment ou d'une structure servant principalement de monument érigé en l'honneur des personnes tuées ou décédées en raison d'une guerre — notamment un monument commémoratif de guerre ou un cénotaphe —, d'un objet servant à honorer ces personnes ou à en rappeler le souvenir et se trouvant dans un tel bâtiment ou une telle structure ou sur le terrain où ceux-ci sont situés, ou d'un cimetière;

(f) tout autre lieu désigné par le ministre de la Sécurité publique et de la Protection civile.

Ordre de fournir des biens et services essentiels

7 (1) Toute personne doit rendre disponibles et fournir les biens et services essentiels demandés par le ministre de la Sécurité publique et de la Protection civile, du commissaire de la Gendarmerie royale du Canada, ou la personne agissant en leur nom pour l'enlèvement, le remorquage et l'entreposage de véhicules, d'équipement, des structures ou de tout autre objet qui composent un blocage.

modalités

(2) La demande faite au titre du paragraphe (1) peut être faite par écrit ou communiquée verbalement ou la personne agissant en son nom.

demande verbale

(3) La demande verbale est confirmée par écrit dès que possible.

Période de validité

8 Quiconque fait l'objet d'une demande au titre de l'article 7 pour la fourniture de biens et de services essentiels est tenu de s'y conformer dans les plus brefs délais jusqu'à la première des dates suivantes :

(a) la date indiqué à la demande;

(b) la date de l'abrogation ou la cessation d'effet de la déclaration d'état d'urgence;

(c) la date de l'abrogation du présent règlement.

indemnisation pour les biens et services essentiels

9 (1) Sa Majesté du chef du Canada accorde une indemnité raisonnable à la personne pour les biens fournis et les services rendus à sa demande aux termes de l'article 7 dont le montant équivaut au taux courant du marché pour les biens et services de même type, dans la région où les biens ont été fournis ou où les services ont été rendus.

Compensation

(2) Any person who suffers loss, injury or damage as a result of anything done or purported to be done under these Regulations may make an application for compensation in accordance with Part V of the *Emergencies Act* and any regulations made under that Part, as the case may be.

Compliance — peace officer

10 (1) In the case of a failure to comply with these Regulations, any peace officer may take the necessary measures to ensure the compliance with these Regulations and with any provincial or municipal laws and allow for the prosecution for that failure to comply.

Contravention of regulations

(2) In the case of a failure to comply with these Regulations, any peace officer may take the necessary measures to ensure the compliance and allow for the prosecution for that failure to comply

(a) on summary conviction, to a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months or to both; or

(b) on indictment, to a fine not exceeding five thousand dollars or to imprisonment for a term not exceeding five years or to both.

Coming into force

11 This Order comes into force on the day on which it is registered.

indemnisation

(2) Toute personne qui subit des dommages corporels ou matériels entraînés par des actes accomplis, ou censés l'avoir été, en application du présent règlement peut, à cet égard, présenter une demande d'indemnisation conformément à la partie V de la *Loi sur les mesures d'urgence* et à ses règlements d'application, le cas échéant.

Application des lois

10 (1) En cas de contravention au présent règlement, tout agent de la paix peut prendre les mesures nécessaires pour faire observer le présent règlement ou toutes lois provinciales ou municipales et permettre l'engagement de poursuites pour cette contravention.

Pénalités

(2) Quiconque contrevient au présent règlement est coupable d'une infraction passible, sur déclaration de culpabilité :

a) par procédure sommaire, d'une amende maximale de 500 \$ et d'un d'emprisonnement maximal de six mois, ou de l'une de ces peines;

b) par mise en accusation, d'une amende maximale de 5 000 \$ et d'un emprisonnement maximal de cinq ans, ou de l'une de ces peines.

entrée en vigueur

11 Le présent règlement entre en vigueur à la date de son enregistrement.

Registration
SOR/2022-22 February 15, 2022

EMERGENCIES ACT

P.C. 2022-108 February 15, 2022

Whereas the Governor in Council has, by a proclamation made pursuant to subsection 17(1) of the *Emergencies Act*, declared that a public order emergency exists;

And whereas the Governor in Council has reasonable grounds to believe that the measures with respect to property referred to in this Order are necessary;

Therefore, Her Excellency the Governor General in Council, on the recommendation of the Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness, pursuant to subsection 19(1) of the *Emergencies Act*, makes the annexed *Emergency Economic Measures Order*.

emergency economic measures Order

definitions

1 The following definitions apply to this Order:

designated person means any individual or entity that is engaged, directly or indirectly, in an activity prohibited by sections 2 to 5 of the *Emergency Measures Regulations*. (*personne désignée*)

entity includes a corporation, trust, partnership, fund, unincorporated association or organization or foreign state. (*entité*)

duty to cease dealings

2 (1) Any entity set out in section 3 must, upon the coming into force of this Order, cease

(a) dealing in any property, wherever situated, that is owned, held or controlled, directly or indirectly, by a designated person or by a person acting on behalf of or at the direction of that designated person;

(b) facilitating any transaction related to a dealing referred to in paragraph (a);

(c) making available any property, including funds or virtual currency, to or for the benefit of a designated person or to a person acting on behalf of or at the direction of a designated person; or

Enregistrement
DORS/2022-22 Le 15 février 2022

LOI SUR LES MESURES D'URGENCE

C.P. 2022-108 Le 15 février 2022

Attendu que la gouverneure en conseil a, par proclamation prise en vertu du paragraphe 17(1) de la *Loi sur les mesures d'urgence*, déclaré qu'il existe un état d'urgence;

Attendu que la gouverneure en conseil a des motifs raisonnables de croire que les mesures relatives aux biens prévues dans le présent décret sont fondées,

À ces causes, sur recommandation du ministre de la Sécurité publique et de la Protection civile et en vertu du paragraphe 19(1) de la *Loi sur les mesures d'urgence*, Son Excellence la Gouverneure générale en conseil prend le *Décret sur les mesures économiques d'urgence*, ci-après.

décret sur les mesures économiques
d'urgence

définitions

1 Les définitions qui suivent s'appliquent au présent décret :

entité S'entend notamment d'une personne morale, d'une fiducie, d'une société de personne, d'un fonds, d'une organisation ou d'une association dotée de la personnalité morale ou d'un État étranger. (*entité*)

personne désignée Toute personne physique ou entité qui participe, même indirectement, à l'une ou l'autre des activités interdites au titre des articles 2 à 5 du *Règlement sur les mesures d'urgence*. (*designated person*)

Obligations de cesser les opérations

2 (1) Dès l'entrée en vigueur du présent décret, les entités visées à l'article 3 doivent cesser :

a) toute opération portant sur un bien, où qu'il se trouve, appartenant à une personne désignée ou détenu ou contrôlé par elle ou pour son compte ou suivant ses instructions;

b) toute transaction liée à une opération visée à l'alinéa a) ou d'en faciliter la conclusion;

c) de rendre disponible des biens — notamment des fonds ou de la monnaie virtuelle — à une personne désignée ou à une personne agissant pour son compte

(d) providing any financial or related services to or for the benefit of any designated person or acquire any such services from or for the benefit of any such person or entity.

insurance policy

(2) Paragraph 2(1)(d) does not apply in respect of any insurance policy which was valid prior to the coming in force of this Order other than an insurance policy for any vehicle being used in a public assembly referred to in subsection 2(1) of the *Emergency Measures Regulations*.

duty to determine

3 The following entities must determine on a continuing basis whether they are in possession or control of property that is owned, held or controlled by or on behalf of a designated person:

(a) *authorized foreign banks*, as defined in section 2 of the *Bank Act*, in respect of their business in Canada, and banks regulated by that Act;

(b) cooperative credit societies, savings and credit unions and caisses populaires regulated by a provincial Act and associations regulated by the *Cooperative Credit Associations Act*;

(c) *foreign companies*, as defined in subsection 2(1) of the *Insurance Companies Act*, in respect of their insurance business in Canada;

(d) *companies, provincial companies and societies*, as those terms are defined in subsection 2(1) of the *Insurance Companies Act*;

(e) fraternal benefit societies regulated by a provincial Act in respect of their insurance activities and insurance companies and other entities regulated by a provincial Act that are engaged in the business of insuring risks;

(f) companies regulated by the *Trust and Loan Companies Act*;

(g) trust companies regulated by a provincial Act;

(h) loan companies regulated by a provincial Act;

(i) entities that engage in any activity described in paragraphs 5(h) and (h.1) of the *Proceeds of Crime (Money Laundering) and Terrorist Financing Act*;

(j) entities authorized under provincial legislation to engage in the business of dealing in securities or to provide portfolio management or investment counselling services;

ou suivant ses instructions, ou au profit de l'une ou l'autre de ces personnes;

d) de fournir des services financiers ou connexes à une personne désignée ou à son profit ou acquérir de tels services auprès d'elle ou à son profit.

Police d'assurance

(2) Toutefois, l'alinéa 2(1)d) ne s'applique pas à l'égard d'une police d'assurance effective — au moment de l'entrée en vigueur du présent décret — portant sur un véhicule autre que celui utilisé lors d'une assemblée publique visée au paragraphe 2(1) du *Règlement sur les mesures d'urgence*.

vérification

3 Il incombe aux entités mentionnées ci-après de vérifier de façon continue si des biens qui sont en leur possession ou sous leur contrôle appartiennent à une personne désignée ou sont détenus ou contrôlés par elle ou pour son compte :

a) les banques étrangères autorisées, au sens de l'article 2 de la *Loi sur les banques*, dans le cadre de leurs activités au Canada, et les banques régies par cette loi;

b) les coopératives de crédit, caisses d'épargne et de crédit et caisses populaires régies par une loi provinciale et les associations régies par la *Loi sur les associations coopératives de crédit*;

c) les sociétés étrangères, au sens du paragraphe 2(1) de la *Loi sur les sociétés d'assurances*, dans le cadre de leurs activités d'assurance au Canada;

d) les sociétés, les sociétés de secours et les sociétés provinciales, au sens du paragraphe 2(1) de la *Loi sur les sociétés d'assurances*;

e) les sociétés de secours mutuel régies par une loi provinciale, dans le cadre de leurs activités d'assurance, et les sociétés d'assurances et autres entités régies par une loi provinciale qui exercent le commerce de l'assurance;

f) les sociétés régies par la *Loi sur les sociétés de fiducie et de prêt*;

g) les sociétés de fiducie régies par une loi provinciale;

h) les sociétés de prêt régies par une loi provinciale;

i) les entités qui se livrent à une activité visée aux alinéas 5h) et h.1) de la *Loi sur le recyclage des produits de la criminalité et le financement des activités terroristes*;

(k) entities that provide a platform to raise funds or virtual currency through donations; and

(l) entities that perform any of the following payment functions:

(i) the provision or maintenance of an account that, in relation to an electronic funds transfer, is held on behalf of one or more end users,

(ii) the holding of funds on behalf of an end user until they are withdrawn by the end user or transferred to another individual or entity,

(iii) the initiation of an electronic funds transfer at the request of an end user,

(iv) the authorization of an electronic funds transfer or the transmission, reception or facilitation of an instruction in relation to an electronic funds transfer, or

(v) the provision of clearing or settlement services.

registration requirement — FiNTrAC

4 (1) The entities referred to in paragraphs 3(k) and (l) must register with the Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Canada established by section 41 of the *Proceeds of Crime (Money Laundering) and Terrorist Financing Act* if they are in possession or control of property that is owned, held or controlled by or on behalf of a designated person.

reporting obligation — suspicious transactions

(2) Those entities must also report to the Centre every financial transaction that occurs or that is attempted in the course of their activities and in respect of which there are reasonable grounds to suspect that

(a) the transaction is related to the commission or the attempted commission of a money laundering offence by a designated person; or

(b) the transaction is related to the commission or the attempted commission of a terrorist activity financing offence by a designated person.

reporting obligation — other transactions

(3) Those entities must also report to the Centre the transactions and information set out in subsections 30(1)

j) les entités autorisées en vertu de la législation provinciale à se livrer au commerce des valeurs mobilières ou à fournir des services de gestion de portefeuille ou des conseils en placement;

k) les plateformes collaboratives et celles de monnaie virtuelle qui sollicitent des dons;

l) toute entité qui exécute l'une ou l'autre de fonctions suivantes :

(i) la fourniture ou la tenue d'un compte détenu au nom d'un ou de plusieurs utilisateurs finaux en vue d'un transfert électronique de fonds,

(ii) la détention de fonds au nom d'un utilisateur final jusqu'à ce qu'ils soient retirés par celui-ci ou transférés à une personne physique ou à une entité,

(iii) l'initiation d'un transfert électronique de fonds à la demande d'un utilisateur final,

(iv) l'autorisation de transfert électronique de fonds ou la transmission, la réception ou la facilitation d'une instruction en vue d'un transfert électronique de fonds,

(v) la prestation de services de compensation ou de règlement.

inscription obligatoire — Centre

4 (1) Les entités visées aux alinéas 3k) et l) doivent s'inscrire auprès du Centre d'analyse des opérations et déclarations financières du Canada constitué par l'article 41 de la *Loi sur le recyclage des produits de la criminalité et le financement des activités terroristes* s'ils ont en leur possession un bien appartenant à une personne désignée ou détenu ou contrôlé par elle ou pour son compte ou suivant ses instructions.

Opérations douteuses

(2) Elles doivent également déclarer au Centre toute opération financière effectuée ou tentée dans le cours de ses activités et à l'égard de laquelle il y a des motifs raisonnables de soupçonner qu'elle est liée à la perpétration — réelle ou tentée — par à une personne désignée :

a) soit d'une infraction de recyclage des produits de la criminalité;

b) soit d'une infraction de financement des activités terroristes.

Autres opérations

(3) Elles doivent également déclarer au Centre les opérations visées aux paragraphes 30(1) ou 33(1) du *Règlement*

and 33(1) of the *Proceeds of Crime (Money Laundering) and Terrorist Financing Regulations*.

duty to disclose — rCmP or Csis

5 Every entity set out in section 3 must disclose without delay to the Commissioner of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police or to the Director of the Canadian Security Intelligence Service

(a) the existence of property in their possession or control that they have reason to believe is owned, held or controlled by or on behalf of a designated person; and

(b) any information about a transaction or proposed transaction in respect of property referred to in paragraph (a).

disclosure of information

6 A Government of Canada, provincial or territorial institution may disclose information to any entity set out in section 3, if the disclosing institution is satisfied that the disclosure will contribute to the application of this Order.

immunity

7 No proceedings under the *Emergencies Act* and no civil proceedings lie against an entity for complying with this Order.

Coming into force

8 This Order comes into force on the day on which it is registered.

sur le recyclage des produits de la criminalité et le financement des activités terroristes.

Obligation de communication à la GrC et au sCrC

5 Toute entité visée à l'article 3 est tenue de communiquer, sans délai, au commissaire de la Gendarmerie royale du Canada ou au directeur du Service canadien du renseignement de sécurité :

a) le fait qu'elle croit que des biens qui sont en sa possession ou sous son contrôle appartiennent à une personne désignée ou sont détenus ou contrôlés par elle ou pour son compte;

b) tout renseignement portant sur une transaction, réelle ou projetée, mettant en cause des biens visés à l'alinéa a).

Communication

6 Toute institution fédérale, provinciale ou territoriale peut communiquer des renseignements au responsable d'une entité visée à l'article 3, si elle est convaincue que les renseignements aideront à l'application du présent décret.

immunité

7 Aucune poursuite en vertu de la *Loi sur les mesures d'urgence* ni aucune procédure civile ne peuvent être intentées contre une entité qui se conforme au présent décret.

entrée en vigueur

8 Le présent décret entre en vigueur à la date de son enregistrement.



HOUSE OF COMMONS
CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES
CANADA

44th PARLIAMENT, 1st SESSION

Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs

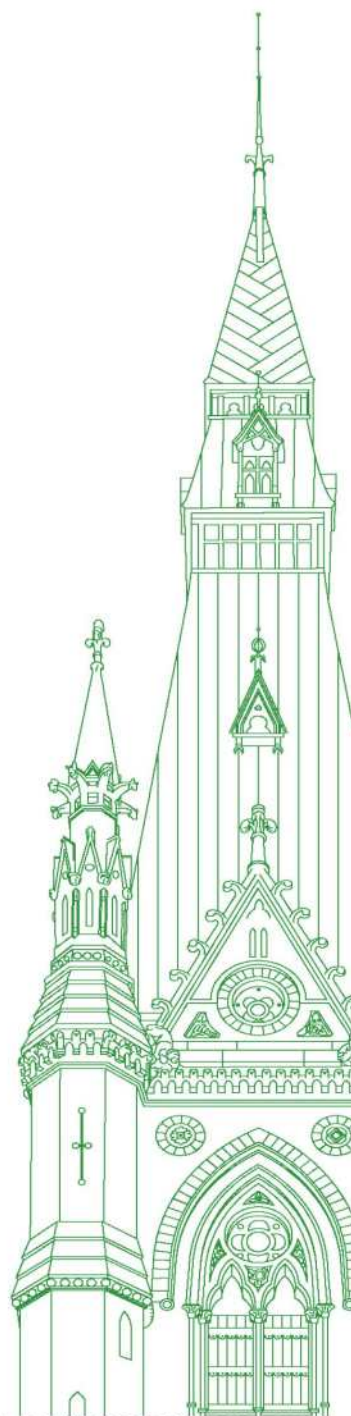
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Thursday, April 28, 2022

Chair: The Honourable Bardish Chagger



Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs

Thursday, April 28, 2022

● (1150)

[Translation]

The Chair (Hon. Bardish Chagger (Waterloo, Lib.)): Good morning, everyone.

I call the meeting to order.

Welcome to meeting number 18 of the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs.

The committee is meeting today to study the main estimates 2022-23 for the House of Commons and parliamentary services, during the first hour of the meeting. To this end, representatives from the House Administration and the Parliamentary Protective Service, or PPS, are attending the meeting.

We will then begin our study on the operational security of the Parliamentary Precinct. We will continue with the representatives of the House and the PPS. This part of the meeting will be held in camera.

So some of the House employees are here to talk to us about the main estimates.

[English]

We have with us Deputy Speaker Chris d'Entremont; Clerk of the House of Commons Charles Robert; deputy clerk, administration, Michel Patrice; and chief financial officer Paul St George.

With that, I welcome everyone present.

We'll go over to you, Mr. Speaker.

Mr. Chris d'Entremont (Deputy Speaker, House of Commons): Thank you very much, Madam Chair and members of the committee. It's my pleasure to be here today on behalf of Speaker Rota.

I did speak to Anthony yesterday, and he is doing well. He thanks everyone, of course, for your kind wishes. I know that lots of people gave him a call, and he really appreciates that. He remains very involved in the office as he rebuilds his stamina.

These are very much his opening remarks that I will deliver today, but I'm going to give you a wink and hope that on Monday he will be in the office and maybe will start some work in the House of Commons on Tuesday, fingers crossed.

[Translation]

The past two years have been challenging in ways we could never have imagined. Nevertheless, the members of Parliament, their

staff, and the employees of the House Administration have adapted to the current reality. Despite the pandemic—or maybe because of it—the House of Commons has been particularly creative in leveraging technology to support the work of Parliament.

Over the past several years, the administration has been investing in technology infrastructure. These investments enabled parliamentarians and staff to connect securely to the House of Commons network and to one another. In this way, they were able to keep in touch.

[English]

Today, I'll be presenting the main estimates for the 2022-23 fiscal year for the House of Commons and the Parliamentary Protective Service.

I know they've already been introduced, but quickly, with me here today are Charles Robert, Clerk of the House of Commons; Michel Patrice, deputy clerk, administration; and Paul St George, chief financial officer.

On my left are Superintendent Larry Brookson, interim director of the Parliamentary Protective Service; Éric Savard, chief financial officer; and Sonia Vani, chief of staff.

I will begin by outlining key elements of the 2022-23 main estimates for the House of Commons, tabled on March 1, 2022.

The main estimates total \$563 million, which represents a net increase of \$19.3 million compared to the 2021-22 main estimates.

The 2022-23 main estimates were reviewed and approved by the Board of Internal Economy at its meeting on December 16, 2021.

I will present the main estimates for the House of Commons according to five major themes corresponding to the handout that you have received. The financial impact associated with each theme represents the year-over-year changes from the 2021-22 main estimates.

To start, funding in the amount of \$13.8 million for cost-of-living increases covers requirements for members' and House officers' budgets and the House administration, as well as the statutory increase to the members' sessional allowances and additional salaries.

The annual budget adjustments for members and House officers related to cost-of-living increases are based on the consumer price index and are essential to the exercise of their parliamentary functions.

Turning to major investments, we see a net decrease of \$1 million.

The sunseting of the funds included in the 2021-22 main estimates to account for one-time costs related to security enhancements for members resulted in a decrease of \$4.2 million in the 2022-23 main estimates.

Another area of focus for major investments that this committee has seen in the past is support for information technology systems and assets transferred to the House of Commons within the context of the long-term vision and plan. The additional funding provided for this support in the 2022-23 main estimates is \$2.3 million.

Other major investments include support for increased committee activities—\$489,000—and committee operations—\$322,000.

Moving now to the \$3.6-million increase for other adjustments for members and House officers, this includes the funding required for the House of Commons' contributions to members' pension plans, up \$3.6 million, as determined by the Treasury Board, and an increase of \$38,000 for House officers' office budgets due to the new party representation in the House following the 2021 general election.

Let us now turn to parliamentary diplomacy.

The funds earmarked for conferences, associations and assemblies in the 2022-23 main estimates total \$768,000.

[Translation]

The 2022–23 main estimates had identified funding for the 47th Annual Session of the Assemblée parlementaire de la Francophonie, scheduled to be held in Quebec in July 2022, but the assembly has been cancelled due to the pandemic. It is anticipated that the sum originally intended for this event will serve to reduce the funding requested in the main estimates.

The 65th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference, which has been postponed for another year, from August 2021 to August 2022, remains in these main estimates.

• (1155)

Looking ahead to 2023–24, Canada is set to host the 31st Annual Session of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe Parliamentary Assembly in Vancouver, British Columbia, in July 2023.

[English]

Finally, the main estimates provide for a total of \$2.2 million for adjustments to the contributions for the House of Commons' employee benefit plans.

I will now present the 2022-23 main estimates for the Parliamentary Protective Service. For the 2022-23 fiscal year, the service requests a main estimate budget of \$100.7 million. This represents an

increase of \$9.8 million, or 10.9% over the 2021-22 main estimates budget.

Before outlining the justification for this increase, it is worth noting the period of financial stability that the service achieved for the past three fiscal years, as the budget was maintained at approximately \$91 million, with the budgetary variance averaging -0.4%. The service's ongoing commitments to financial stewardship is further illustrated by the voluntary budget reduction of 2% applied to the previous main estimates.

[Translation]

Currently, the service is in its seventh year of protecting the Parliament of Canada, its parliamentarians, employees and visitors.

While the focus was almost exclusively on tactical priorities in the early years of the service's existence, it now operates as a strategic, intelligence-led agency. As it grows, it is increasingly focused on the welfare of its employees.

In fact, the 2021-24 strategic plan highlights two organizational priorities that underscore this maturity: delivering operational excellence and high performance to the parliamentary community and ensuring the overall health and well-being of its employees.

This approach recognizes the interdependence of the following two priorities: a workplace where all employees are physically and psychologically safe, coupled with a sense of belonging, which is essential to effectively deliver on the protection mandate.

[English]

The requested \$9.8 million increase will be used to mature the organization, meet financial obligations and address the ever-evolving threat environment. These are two main categories associated with the request.

In the first category are expenses linked to inflationary costs, legislative requirements and economic increases, which together account for roughly 70% of the ask as follows. Approximately 50% is associated with ongoing economic increases resulting from cost-of-living adjustments through collective bargaining mandates. An additional 8% provides the service with the necessary capacity to meet legislative requirements in areas such as occupational health and safety, diversity and belonging, and hazard identification and risk assessment. A further 12% is required to cover inflationary increases associated with various goods and services. The remaining 30% of this increase includes 20% to be allocated to threat mitigation and protective mandate initiatives to ensure that the service continues to meet its current and future threats effectively, and 10% to be invested in resources required to adequately support the service's operational sector.

As some of you may recall, 2018 marked an important milestone in the service's history. An initiative was then launched to transition RCMP resources off the Hill. This transition was completed in October 2020, as RCMP frontline resources were completely demobilized. Today, the Parliamentary Protective Service assumes full responsibility of precinct security. As the service matures, it continues to establish, integrate and optimize systems to ensure increased operational readiness and effective response. It is making progress on important multi-year projects, such as the implementation of an enterprise resource planning system and a computer-automated dispatch system.

Having assumed full control of the precinct's security, with major systems coming online, and with its commitment to people-driven excellence, the Parliamentary Protective Service is better positioned than ever before to deliver on its protective mandate in an ever-evolving threat environment.

• (1200)

[Translation]

Madam Chair, this concludes our overview of the 2022-23 main estimates for the House of Commons and the Parliamentary Protective Service.

We will be happy to answer any questions the committee may have.

[English]

Thank you very much, Madam Chair.

Was that eight minutes?

[Translation]

The Chair: It was nine minutes and forty-seven seconds. No one here is keeping count.

[English]

Mr. Chris d'Entremont: All right.

[Translation]

It was close.

The Chair: Thank you for these comments.

I also want to welcome Mr. Brookson, Mr. Savard and Ms. Vani.

We're only going to have a six-minute round of questions for each party, starting with Mr. Scheer, who will be followed by Mr. Turnbull, Ms. Gaudreau and Ms. Blaney.

Mr. Scheer, you have the floor for six minutes.

[English]

Hon. Andrew Scheer (Regina—Qu'Appelle, CPC): Thank you very much, Madam Chair.

I'm surprised you missed your opportunity to cut off the Speaker.

Voices: Oh, oh!

Hon. Andrew Scheer: That would have been amazing for an MP to tell the Speaker that he had run out of time, but I understand why you did not.

Thanks very much, Mr. Deputy Speaker, for joining us today.

I would like to clarify something you said. I think you said 12% of the increase was related to inflation.

Was that correct?

Mr. Chris d'Entremont: That would have been for the PPS budget.

Hon. Andrew Scheer: Okay.

Do you have a dollar amount of how much the inflation the government is causing is affecting the line item for the Parliamentary Protective Service?

Mr. Chris d'Entremont: I'll go to Mr. Savard on that one.

Mr. Éric Savard (Chief Financial Officer, Parliamentary Protective Service): The total amount from inflation is about \$1.2 million.

Hon. Andrew Scheer: Okay.

All in all, in the last few years we've seen some pretty big increases to the House of Commons' overall spending. The House grew by 10% after the 2015 election, but in some years since we have had 17% or 19% increases. In 2019-20, we had a 19.4% increase. In 2020-21, we had 23.6%, and now, again, another big increase.

What are some of the reasons for these big increases in spending above inflation and above the growth of the House of Commons' membership?

Mr. Chris d'Entremont: Mr. St George.

Mr. Paul St George (Chief Financial Officer, House of Commons): The House budget essentially has increased by the CPI, and this was a board decision made back in 2015. In terms of the dollar amounts, we see this year that the inflationary increase is about \$13.7 million, which is basically to offset the cost of the CPI rate, the cost of inflation, in terms of salaries as well as non-salary items.

Hon. Andrew Scheer: One of the challenges we've had with the pandemic and the restrictions that have been brought in with it is that all members have experienced the strain that's been put on House resources, such as accommodating various committees in a hybrid format, and challenges with technology and with translation especially.

We have been told over the past few years that when there is something extra, sometimes committee have to get cancelled because there's a complete lack of resources. Now we're facing a situation in the coming weeks, if the House passes the Liberal motion, in which we're going to be sitting until midnight regularly until the end of the session.

What impact do you think this is going to have on the ability of the committees to do their work if they've already been strained and now more resources are going to have to be diverted to the late night House sittings?

Mr. Charles Robert (Clerk of the House of Commons): In fact, Mr. Scheer, we do anticipate that there could be an impact. It will really depend on how the House wants to arrange its business and how often the government uses the option to sit until midnight.

Hon. Andrew Scheer: When the House had midnight sittings last spring, we understand that there were about eight committee meetings per week that were cancelled.

Is that about what we could expect? Has the House ramped up in anticipation of this?

Mr. Charles Robert: The ability to ramp up is in fact going to be determined by the resources that are available to us for interpretation.

At the same time, we also know that this is a busy period for the Senate. Interpretation has obligations to serve both Houses, as well as other functions related to government, and the House has priority over committees.

If the House decides to sit on a regular basis until midnight, we are certain that it will have an impact, particularly if the Senate itself, at the same time, decides to sit.

Hon. Andrew Scheer: So there is one parliamentary envelope or pool for interpretation that the Senate and the House both draw from?

• (1205)

Mr. Charles Robert: That's correct.

Hon. Andrew Scheer: The House doesn't have its own pool?

Mr. Charles Robert: It's the pool not only for Parliament, basically, but also for other government services.

Hon. Andrew Scheer: Okay.

Mr. Charles Robert: The 60 interpreters we have on call and the others who might be available are not exclusively used by Parliament.

Hon. Andrew Scheer: I see. Where does Parliament fit in the pecking order?

Mr. Charles Robert: Near the top.

Hon. Andrew Scheer: Okay. I just wanted to make sure of that.

I'm sorry to loop back to the increase, but can you just repeat what the overall increase is? Is the 3.5% the only increase this year over last year?

Mr. Paul St George: The increase itself is broken up into different components. One is related to the CPI. That's what we award to the members' budgets. As well, what we saw with increases was related to one-time events in terms of security and in terms of initiatives and stuff like that. They essentially add up to about \$5 million this year. Those are "one time" in nature, some of them particularly related to COVID-19.

Hon. Andrew Scheer: What's the total percentage increase year over year if you add in everything, such as the CPI and inflation?

Mr. Paul St George: It would be 3.5% this year over last year.

Hon. Andrew Scheer: Total?

Mr. Paul St George: Total.

Hon. Andrew Scheer: So that was the total increase. Okay.

On the Parliamentary Protective Service side, I was Speaker at the tail end, just as the entity was being constructed. Overall, is there any feedback on whether or not that has achieved the goal of streamlining, of finding efficiencies and of eliminating duplications, especially as it relates to cost? Have we seen increases or decreases or about the same level of spending? Where would you rate the impact of the new service on the cost of providing security on the Hill?

Mr. Paul St George: I think I'll ask Mr. Brookson or Mr. Savard to answer.

Hon. Andrew Scheer: Okay.

Mr. Éric Savard: Thank you for your question, Mr. Scheer. It's a bit of a complicated one.

When we were initially created, we had the RCMP element protecting the grounds of the precinct. Therefore, through the transition we managed to gain some savings from removing the RCMP and replacing them with our own personnel. Those savings have been basically reinvested within the service to grow the support functions and the administration.

Overall, the cost of security didn't increase that much for the last couple of years. This year is the first in three years that we have asked for a substantial increase of about 10%.

As well, as the nature of the work gets more complicated—I would have to pass it back to Mr. Brookson on the nature of the security services that we offer and the threat level that exists—I believe some of the objectives initially when PPS was created have been achieved, but the threat environment has evolved. That's what we need to keep up with, to my understanding.

Hon. Andrew Scheer: Thank you.

The Chair: Just so we all know, it's a little bit inconsistent with our traditional meetings, where everything goes through the chair. I want to say thank you to Mr. Scheer for the tone and temperament of that exchange for the benefit of interpreters. As long as we're not speaking over each other, we're good with that. As long as we are professional and honourable, as members always are, we will continue at this pace.

I'll now pass it over to Mr. Turnbull for six minutes.

Mr. Ryan Turnbull (Whitby, Lib.): Thank you, Madam Chair.

Let me first say thank you to all the witnesses for being here today. I'm sorry I can't join you in person, but I do want to thank you for the tireless work you put in every day to make our House of Commons function.

I have two lines of questioning. Then I hope to share my time with my colleague Ms. Romanado.

To the Parliamentary Protective Service folks, just given what we saw during the occupation of downtown Ottawa, which I won't recount at length, certainly when you talk about an "evolving threat environment", I really see that this incident was something that tested all of us and the Parliamentary Protective Service. It certainly brought up many concerns for the health and safety of members of Parliament and staff on the Hill.

Given that, will this change the budgeting considerations in the future for PPS? What security measures are now necessary on the Hill that weren't before?

Perhaps I will direct that to Larry Brookson, but I'm happy if anybody else wants to answer.

Mr. Larry Brookson (Acting Director, Parliamentary Protective Service): Thank you, Madam Chair.

I want to be sensitive to speaking in the open with regard to what security measures we currently have in place. It's also important to note as context that the submission of these mains was in the pre-occupation period.

I know that's not answering your question, Mr. Turnbull, but I'm more than open, once we get into closed camera, to talk more specifically about ongoing threats and the service's ability to continue to be where it needs to be to protect parliamentarians, staffers and members of the public who are on the precinct.

• (1210)

Mr. Ryan Turnbull: I will just follow up quickly, Madam Chair, with a question through you to Mr. Brookson based on that.

The estimates that we see in front of us do not include an added budget for the evolving threat environment that may be represented by that incident of the occupation of downtown Ottawa. Would that be correct?

Mr. Larry Brookson: That's correct, Mr. Turnbull.

Mr. Ryan Turnbull: Would you anticipate, through you, Madam Chair, an increase to the overall PPS budget for the future in order to be fully equipped to deal with those types of evolving threats?

Mr. Larry Brookson: Yes, that's correct.

Mr. Ryan Turnbull: Thank you, Mr. Brookson.

I'm going to move to the House of Commons administration folks who are there. Thank you again, all, for being there.

I want to talk about the hybrid setting. Certainly, we've operated for two years in a hybrid setting. I think this is becoming more popular. I think we've all experienced advantages with this added capability. Yet, there have also been challenges, right? We've experienced the benefits, but there have also been challenges.

My staff team and I, for example, just recently planned a big event on the Hill for stakeholders, members of Parliament and senators, and we have really struggled to get the resources to have a sub-caucus meeting that is hybrid and has translation services. I'm concerned about this. It's very frustrating for members of Parliament. I've certainly heard it from some of my colleagues. I wonder just how this is being addressed in the current budget. Will there be more resources and a solution for increased capacity to have more hybrid sittings, especially for sub-caucuses and special events that members of Parliament are organizing?

Mr. Charles Robert: I think the answer to your question depends on the availability of interpretation services. To date, that has really limited our capacity to provide support.

I think the conversation really has to take place with Public Works to see what can be done to build the pool of interpreters and what qualifications they need to secure in order to be effective in providing support for services on the Hill and elsewhere within government.

Mr. Ryan Turnbull: Is there a budget implication to that? It sounds like there's a capacity issue there in terms of drawing from the same pool and needing more trained people, perhaps. Is there a budget implication for the resources that are needed in order to accommodate all of the meetings on the Hill? Has the assessment been done of how much more of a budget we need?

Mr. Charles Robert: I don't think we can really answer that question quite definitively at this point. We don't really know what demand growth there will be. We are limited now because of the interpretation services' capacity. Once that's adjusted and the members decide that they want to expand the range of meetings they want to hold that need to be supported by the administration, we will make an assessment of the impact that it will have on our resources and respond accordingly.

Mr. Ryan Turnbull: Let me just say that I really appreciate the work that our translation and interpretive services are doing every day to support us. I know they're working hard. This is not an issue with the current interpreters. They're fantastic people behind the scenes who work tirelessly every day to support us. Thank you to them. I just think we need more wonderful people like them.

Thank you, Mr. Robert.

I'm going to hand it over to Ms. Romanado. Hopefully I have a little time left.

Mrs. Sherry Romanado (Longueuil—Charles-LeMoyne, Lib.): Thank you very much.

I know I don't have very much time; I just have one question. This may sound like a bizarre question.

I've noticed over the last couple of years since we've moved from Centre Block to West Block that there is no canopy or overhang over the entrance doors that we go through when we're coming across Wellington to West Block.

I witnessed a chunk of ice and snow almost hit a Parliamentary Protective Service member, let alone members of Parliament or staff who are walking in. Is there a plan in the mains to address that? I am quite concerned. They have no protection from the elements or from falling snow or ice from the roof of West Block.

Thank you.

• (1215)

Mr. Chris d'Entremont: I think Mr. Patrice would take that.

Mr. Michel Patrice (Deputy Clerk, Administration, House of Commons): Yes, thank you for that information, first of all.

We're going to have a discussion with Public Works. Public Works basically owns the building and does improvements of that nature. There's been discussion about a kind of cover of the entrance of the West Block. As you can often see, the maintenance of the building, snow removal and so on is done regularly by Public Works contractors.

[Translation]

Mrs. Sherry Romanado: Thank you very much.

[English]

The Chair: Thank you.

[Translation]

Ms. Gaudreau, you have the floor for six minutes.

Ms. Marie-Hélène Gaudreau (Laurentides—Labelle, BQ): Thank you very much, Madam Chair.

First of all, I want to thank my colleagues, because they have answered some of my questions, and our time is precious.

I'm going to continue in the same vein. I am very happy to participate in this meeting. This is the first time I can imagine what Quebecers and Canadians would like to say to you. So I would like to thank you and congratulate you on your excellent work.

Of course, I have a special message for interpreters, since I think they have had a hard time. I have been in office since 2019, so I can still say that I am a new parliamentarian. But I did not expect to experience problems with technology. Furthermore, I have found interpreters to be a valuable resource. Sometimes we can be a bit of a pain in the neck with our French, but it's our job, and we're very proud of these services.

People have heard a lot about the health and safety of interpreters. Yes, there has been an increase in the budget for tools, and we have just recently received some tools.

We probably won't know until the parliamentary break whether we will be working in hybrid mode and using technological tools. Have you budgeted for the amounts needed to make sure that everyone has good equipment and that the interpreters are treated well? I think interpreters have had health problems, and that is what we want to avoid. Do you have a prevention perspective for our esteemed interpreters?

Mr. Charles Robert: We have already put measures in place to ensure the safety of interpreters, and especially their health. We are constantly making improvements to the equipment because, as you

know, we have received complaints about the technology and the sound. This is one of our concerns. I know very well that the technology and digital services have taken steps to ensure that the equipment used by the interpreters is the best it can be.

Ms. Marie-Hélène Gaudreau: I extend my greetings to the 60 interpreters. I know there are four new ones who have just arrived. I hope you don't have any concerns, because resources are scarce.

I looked at the expenditure budget in more detail, and I have a question about the Parliamentary Protective Service heading. It talks about the acquisition of machinery and equipment. I understand that it was necessary to acquire technological equipment. However, there has been a significant increase in just two years.

Can you give us some further explanations on that? Do we need to modernize the fleet?

Mr. Chris d'Entremont: Mr. Savard, you have the floor.

Mr. Éric Savard: Thank you for your question, Ms. Gaudreau.

Indeed, the vehicle fleet is one of the items where there have been increases. There are all sorts of protective equipment that we use as well. Some investments have been made to equip our people with the tools they need to do their job. Also, we've made some leasehold improvements in some of our work spaces. All of these factors have resulted in these recent increases.

Ms. Marie-Hélène Gaudreau: I would like to have your opinion on the evaluation that will take place over the next few weeks of security on Parliament Hill and in the Parliamentary Precinct.

We are very concerned about the scarcity of labour and the modulations of security. How do you see that? Obviously, we will have the opportunity to talk to you for advice, but I think it would be interesting to tell people how concerned you are about it and how you are preparing for it.

• (1220)

Mr. Chris d'Entremont: Mr. Brookson, you have the floor.

[English]

Mr. Larry Brookson: The investments that we've asked for in the main estimates, again, were pre-occupation. For the question of what we are going to be putting in place moving forward for the immediate...those are discussions that still need to take place as to what level of investment we're going to need to put that into the service, particularly when we're talking about what the precinct is going to look like moving forward.

[Translation]

I apologize for not having been able to answer you in French.

Ms. Marie-Hélène Gaudreau: Your French is excellent, Mr. Brookson.

Mr. Larry Brookson: Thank you.

I'm not very confident, but I keep trying—

Ms. Marie-Hélène Gaudreau: It's the same for me in English, but I'm working on it.

Mr. Larry Brookson: Thank you.

Ms. Marie-Hélène Gaudreau: The important thing is that we manage to understand each other well. By the way, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the interpreters once again.

I want to talk about the electronic aspect.

As we have seen, there has been a significant change in terms of what is being done to the Centre Block. Is there going to be a significant increase in the budget, given the new technologies and the subsequent need for equipment or other things?

What is the situation there?

Mr. Chris d'Entremont: Mr. Patrice, would you like to answer this question?

Mr. Michel Patrice: Thank you for your question.

Actually, when it comes to technology investments, both in terms of the replacement cycle and the addition of new technologies, the necessary funds are provided for in the budget. This ensures that members, their staff and the House Administration have the resources, equipment and tools to do their jobs.

Ms. Marie-Hélène Gaudreau: Thank you.

I have no further questions.

The Chair: Thank you, Ms. Gaudreau.

Ms. Blaney, you have the floor for six minutes.

[English]

Ms. Rachel Blaney (North Island—Powell River, NDP): Thank you, Chair. I thank all of our witnesses for being here today. I know that the last several months have been incredibly taxing on everyone, and I want to recognize all the hard work that you provided to us during that time.

The first question I want to ask is around committees. We know that this is an ongoing challenge for sure. I know it's not easy for me to tell some of my members that we're going to have to cancel our committee to accommodate another.

I'm wondering if we could get a little clarity about where the gap is. Is it in technology? Is it in technology and interpretation, or is it simply in the role of the interpreters who serve us?

Mr. Charles Robert: There are always going to be capacity limits depending on how far you stretch it. In the current environment in which we are working, it is largely the factor of interpretation and its ability to serve, given the limited number of qualified interpreters who can perform the job.

Ms. Rachel Blaney: Okay.

I know that the interpreters have had a very hard time in the last few years. We know that injuries have increased dramatically. People have not had the proper technology. It's been a challenge trying to get the best technology.

My next question is if there is a need for better investment in tools that will support our interpreters so that they have fewer injuries. I'm not the expert, of course. The other part of the question is this. Is part of our challenge based around the fact that we do have interpreters who are having to take time off because of their injuries?

Mr. Michel Patrice: On the nature of virtuality and so on in terms of the technology, we are making the necessary investment. Not only that, we're continuing to pursue this in terms of improvement in the technological aspects.

You're right. That mode of work for interpreters is challenging for them in terms of their health and physically. That's why they cannot do the same length of time as if it was a physical meeting. We're continuing, obviously, to leverage our capacity, our knowledge and also experts in the industry to continue to try to improve the working environment for interpreters.

Ms. Rachel Blaney: The last part is around injury. Are we losing so many interpreters to injury that it is making it harder for us to have as many committees as we may want?

Mr. Michel Patrice: For that question, I would unfortunately direct you to the interpretation bureau, which is public works, but obviously we looked at the number, and we look at each incident to make sure that from the House perspective we're doing our best to reduce that amount of injury.

● (1225)

Mr. Charles Robert: There's also the reality of the pandemic and the fact that interpreters, too, are liable to catching the virus. That, too, has an impact on their ability to serve us.

Ms. Rachel Blaney: Thank you.

I cannot say enough good things about the interpreters. They are always very generous with me, so I want to acknowledge their incredible work and their patience through this very hard time.

Voices: Hear, hear!

Ms. Rachel Blaney: I want to come over to some questions about the PPS. The Deputy Speaker spoke very well in his presentation to us. Thank you for being here to represent Anthony.

There is one thing that I'm not clear on and need a little bit more clarification on. What is the role between the PPS and the RCMP? Has that completely been done, and who is fully responsible for the protective services in the parliamentary settings? I'm trying to understand that better.

Mr. Larry Brookson: I remain the last RCMP officer on the Hill. It's been completely decoupled from the service. The two Speakers run the direction of the service, and that's where I take my marching orders from.

Ms. Rachel Blaney: Who does the PPS directly report to? Is that the Speaker?

Mr. Larry Brookson: It's to both Speakers, yes.

Ms. Rachel Blaney: Thank you so much for that.

We know that during the occupation, there was a tremendous amount of work for them. By and large, they did an incredible job with very trying circumstances.

One of the questions that I have relating to this budget is, and you referenced several times that it was not accounted for when these estimates were sent in.... We know that in terms of staffing, there was a lot of overtime and there were a lot of people who were supposed to be on vacation who were asked to not go on vacation in order to accommodate the situation.

I'm wondering about those impacts. How is the PPS doing, being able to fulfill the work that they need to do now after going through such a hard time?

Mr. Larry Brookson: Our main focus is on our front line, so our employees who work for the service. We spent quite a bit of time in reaching out and providing the necessary assistance, particularly to our employees who were most impacted by the occupation.

I'm going to tell you, it was broad. It wasn't just the impact on our employees, it was the impact on their respective families. A lot of our employees were not able to be with their families, because we had them working almost non-stop.

We took the time, as a service family, to reach out to our employees, whether it was through assistance, psychologists or whatever. We keep reminding our employees that their mental wellness is an absolute priority for the service. That's not going to change for us.

Ms. Rachel Blaney: I'm sorry. I have just a few more seconds.

I want to check on the economic part of that, with having to pay that kind of overtime, having to make people not take their vacation

and postponing that for a period. What are the impacts for us in a budgetary way?

Mr. Éric Savard: In total, the cost of the convoy for PPS was about \$6.3 million in overtime accrued expenditures. I should say that not all of it was taken; a lot of it will be taken on leave. In total, it will be about \$4.5 million.

The employees had a choice to either be paid for the overtime or take it as compensatory leave. In the future months, they'll be able to take the time off and enjoy time with their families.

Mr. Larry Brookson: I'll pass that to Éric.

Ms. Rachel Blaney: Thank you.

The Chair: Thank you.

I want to say, on this National Day of Mourning, I think it's quite fitting that we've been talking about our workers, those who have died and those who have suffered illness or injury. I think it's been a really good exchange. We also think about all of those, to the last comments, who surround them and who have been impacted. It's been a nice exchange.

I want to thank all members and all witnesses for being with us today.

Now, we will switch over to an in camera session to continue our meeting. We will suspend for a couple of minutes.

[Proceedings continue in camera]

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	Warren Steinley	Conservative
	Ryan Turnbull	Liberal
	Brad Vis	Conservative

Hon. Bardish Chagger

Liberal

Waterloo



Election

- Elected to the House of Commons in 2015.

Education and Background

- Graduated from the University of Waterloo with a Bachelor of Science degree.

Points of Note

- Chair of the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs (PROC) and Subcommittee on Agenda and Procedure of the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs (SPRO).
- Member of Liaison Committee (LIAI).
- Has held several Cabinet positions: Served as Minister of Diversity and Inclusion and Youth from 2019 to 2021; was the first female Leader of the Government in the House of Commons in the history of Canada (2016 to 2019); and served as Minister of Small Business and Tourism from 2015 to 2018.

Kelly Block

Conservative

Carlton Trail—Eagle Creek, Saskatchewan

Election

- Elected to the House of Commons in 2008.

Education and Background

- Prior to her election to the House of Commons, served two terms as mayor of Waldheim, Saskatchewan.
- Former chairperson of the Gabriel Springs Health District, later serving on the Saskatoon Regional Health Authority when the government of Saskatchewan amalgamated its health districts.



Points of Note

- Vice-Chair on the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs (PROC) and Member of the Subcommittee on Agenda and Procedure of the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs (SPRO).
- Previous member of Standing Committee on Government Operations and Estimates (OGGO).
- From 2013 to 2015, served as Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Natural Resources and as the Conservative Shadow Minister for Public Services and Procurement.

Laurentides—Labelle, Québec

**Election**

- Elected to the House of Commons in 2019.

Education and Background

- Bachelor's degree in communication from the University of Quebec in Montreal (UQAM), and international certification in management coaching.
- Prior to entering federal politics, she was director of the Corporation de développement communautaire des Hautes-Laurentides (CDCHL) – the community development corporation for the Upper Laurentians.

Points of Note

- Vice-Chair of Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs (PROC) and Member of Subcommittee on Private Members Business of Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs (SMEM) and the Subcommittee on Agenda and Procedure of the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs (SPRO).
- Subcommittee on Private Members' Business (SMEM), and Subcommittee on Private Members' Business (SPRO).

Rachel Blaney

NDP

North Island – Powell River, British Columbia

Election

- Elected to the House of Commons in 2015.

Education and Background

- Bachelor of Arts degree in First Nation studies.
- Served as the Executive Director of the Immigrant Welcome Centre of North Vancouver Island.
- Worked collaboratively with a network of small businesses to support local economic growth.



Points of Note

- Whip of the New Democratic Party.
- Member of the Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs (ACVA) and its Subcommittee on Agenda and Procedure of the Standing Committee on Veterans Affairs (SACV). Also member of the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs (PROC) and its Subcommittee on Procedure and House Affairs (SPRO).
- Served as NDP Critic for Veterans and a strong advocate for a National Seniors Strategy.
- MP Blaney is committed to ending poverty and food insecurity for seniors in Canada and tackling the rising cost of living.

Hull-Aylmer, Québec

Election

- Elected to the House of Commons in 2015.

Education and Background

- Holds a Bachelor of Social Sciences degree from the University of Ottawa and a Bachelor of International Relations from Carleton University.
- Served as the National Director of the Liberal Party of Canada.



Points of Note

- Member of the Standing Committee on Access to Information, Privacy and Ethics (ETHI) and the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs (PROC).
- Previous member of the Standing Committee on Finance (FINA) and the Standing Committee on Public Accounts (PACP).
- Since 2021, has been the Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister and to the President of the Treasury Board.
- Served as the Parliamentary Secretary to the President of the Treasury Board and to the Minister of Digital Government from 2019 to 2021.
- Served as the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development from 2015 to 2017.
- Commissioner Lucki appeared before the Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security (SECU) in June 2020 for their study on systemic racism in policing in Canada. MP Fergus asked the Commissioner to provide a definition of systemic racism and asked whether the Commissioner believed that systemic racism still exists in the RCMP. During this appearance, MP Fergus also raised the issue of police de-escalation.

Mark Gerretsen

Liberal

Kingston and the Islands, Ontario

Election

- Elected to the House of Commons in 2015.

Education and Background

- Earned a Degree in Economics from Queen's University and in 1997.
- Elected as City Councillor in 2006, and later went on to serve as Mayor of Kingston from 2010 to 2014.

Points of Note

- Parliamentary Secretary to the Leader of the Government in the House of Commons (Senate)
- Member of the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs (PROC).
- Former Chair of the Ontario Liberal Caucus.
- Served previously on the Standing Committee for National Defence (NDDN).



Sherry Romanado

Liberal

Longueuil—Charles-LeMoyne, Québec

Election

- Elected to the House of Commons in 2015.

Education and Background

- Earned a certificate in Public Relations from McGill University and a Master's degree in Business Administration from Concordia University.
- Prior to entering politics, she was a lecturer at McGill University's School of Continuing Studies.



Points of Note

- Serves as Deputy House leader of the government.
- Member of the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs (PROC).
- Served as the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Seniors from 2018 to 2019 and served as the Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Veterans Affairs and Associate Minister of National Defence from 2017 to 2018.
- Her two sons are active members of the Canadian Armed Forces.

Rube Sahota

Liberal

Brampton North, Ontario

Election

- Elected to the House of Commons in 2015.

Education and Background

- Combined Honours Bachelor of Arts in Political Science and Peace Studies from McMaster University as well as a Juris Doctor in Litigation from the Thomas M. Cooley Law School at Western Michigan University.
- Before entering politics, Ms. Sahota worked as a lawyer. She practised for several years in both the public and private sectors with a focus on criminal law, civil litigation, and dispute resolution.



Points of Note

- Member of the Subcommittee on Review of Parliament's involvement with associations and recognized Interparliamentary groups.
- Deputy government whip.
- Member of the Board of Internal Economy.
- Chair of the Subcommittee on Private Members' Business of the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs (SMEM) and Member of the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs (PROC).
- Previous Member of the Standing Committee on Public Safety and National Security (SECU).
- In 2020, Ms. Sahota advocated to pass Bill C-3, an Act to amend the RCMP and CBSA, which would bring into effect an organization to handle CBSA public complaints that would have handled by a new arm's-length public complaints and review commission, or PCRC. The new PCRC would build on and strengthen the existing Civilian Review and Complaints Commission, CRCC for short, which is currently the review agency for the RCMP. The CRCC would thus be given an expanded role under this bill and a new name to go along with its new responsibilities for the CBSA.

Hon. Andrew Scheer

Conservative

Regina-Qu'Appelle

Election

- Elected to the House of Commons in 2004.

Education and Background

- Holds a Bachelor of Arts (BA) in criminology, political science, and history from the University of Ottawa.
- Prior to entering federal politics, worked as an insurance clerk and an assistant in the constituency office of Canadian Alliance MP Larry Spencer.



Points of Note

- Currently serving as the Shadow Minister for Infrastructure and Communities.
- Member of the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs (PROC).
- From 2017 to 2020, Mr. Scheer was the Leader of the Opposition and the Leader of the Conservative Party.
- In 2015, Mr. Scheer was appointed opposition House leader by leader of the Official Opposition.
- In 2011 was named the 35th Speaker of the House of Commons. He served in this role until December 2015. As such, Mr. Scheer was Speaker during the 2014 attack, subsequent reviews, and the creation of the Parliamentary Protective Service in June 2015 for which he was jointly responsible along with Speaker in the Senate.
- From 2008 to 2011, Mr. Scheer served as Deputy Speakers of the House of Commons.
- Mr. Scheer opposes the long-gun registry, opposes a proposed ban on handgun ownership, and has pledged to repeal firearms regulations Bill C-71.
- Mr. Scheer has proposed to introduce legislation that classifies firearms, instead of giving the authority to Cabinet or the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP).

Warren Steinley

Conservative

Regina-Lewvan

Election

- Elected to the House of Commons in 2019.

Education and Background

- Graduated with an Honours Degree in Political Science from the University of Regina.
- After university, Mr. Warren completed an Internship with Hon. Gerry Ritz, the Minister of Agriculture in Ottawa and then worked in the office of Hon. Lynne Yelich, the Minister of Western Economic Diversification.
- Mr. Warren then returned to Saskatchewan in 2009 to work in the Saskatchewan Public Service within the Ministry of Executive Council as a Researcher. He served as the Director of Research within Government Caucus before being elected as an MLA in the 2011 Saskatchewan general election.
- Mr. Steinley obtained a Master's Degree in Public Administration from the University of Regina through the Johnson Shoyama School of Public Policy.



Points of Note

- Member of the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs (PROC).
- Shadow Minister for Economic Development and Internal Trade.
- In May 2021, gave a speech in the House of Commons, where he spoke with pride of the RCMP Heritage Centre being in his riding and said, "Let the salute begin to all those who wear the red serge. Let us commemorate and honour the work they do each and every day in the service of our country."

Ryan Turnbull

Liberal

Whitby, Ontario

Election

- Elected to the House of Commons in 2019.

Education and Background

- Earned Bachelor's Degree (with High Honours) and a Master's Degree from Carleton University in philosophy and applied ethics.
- Mr. Turnbull founded a management consulting company focused on social innovation and ethics. His company, Eco-Ethonomics Inc. has managed more than 350 projects focused on employing social innovation methods to addressing complex and systemic problems like systemic poverty, racism, and gender equality.



Points of Note

- Member of the Standing Committee on Agriculture and Agri-Food (AGRI), its Subcommittee on Agenda and Procedure of the Standing Committee on Agriculture and Agri-Food (SAGR). Also Member of the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs (PROC) and its two subcommittees: The Subcommittee on Private Members' Business of the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs (SMEM), and the Subcommittee on Agenda and Procedure of the Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs (SPRO).

Brad Vis

Conservative

Mission—Matsqui—Fraser Canyon

Election

- Elected to the House of Commons in 2019.

Education and Background

- Holds a Bachelor's degree in political science from the University of British Columbia and a Master's degree in political science from Carleton University.



Points of Note

- Member of Standing Committee on Procedure and House Affairs (PROC).